

COMMENT OF THE DAY

Colonial Currency System Change

ON Saturday the China Mail published a London report from our own correspondent which stated that the British Government had decided to make a fundamental change in the Colonial currency system. The effect of this, the report went on to say, would be to abolish the necessity for the Colonies to keep the full 100 per cent Sterling cover for their note issue. It added: "If the reserve requirements of the Currency Boards and other Colonial currency authorities are reduced, considerable Sterling balances will become available for the Colonies to spend in Britain or the Sterling Area." The natural question is: how does this affect Hongkong? The answer is: virtually not at all. For the note issue system in Hongkong is entirely different from that operating in other Crown Colonies. In most—if not in all—of the other Colonies the note issuing authority is the Colonial Treasury which deposits in the United Kingdom the equivalent Sterling backing of its issue.

IN Hongkong the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China first issued banknotes in 1853, followed 13 years later by the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation. Initially the banknotes were not legal tender. The Mexican dollar was the standard coin in the Colony until 1895. But the notes became more and more the customary means of payment and from 1890 onwards they were established by convention as practically the sole medium of exchange apart from subsidiary coinage. Today the three major banking institutions—the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, the Chartered Bank and the Mercantile Bank of India—issue the bulk of the Colony's money in notes of denominations from \$5 upwards. The Bank note issue at the end of last year amounted to \$802,211,984 or about 95.3 per cent of the total. (The remaining 4.7 per cent was issued by Government in notes of one dollar, ten cents, five cents and one cent denominations and coins of fifty cents, ten cents and five cents denominations. At the end of last year this issue amounted to \$39,276,187). The Hongkong and Shanghai Bank issues approximately 95 per cent of the banknotes in this Colony and has a full Sterling cover for this amount in London but this cover is purely bank money—not, as in the case of other British Colonies, public funds.

IN so far as other Colonies are concerned the British Government's reported decision appears to be a sensible move designed to give the Colonies a greater measure of financial independence and therefore to make them less reliant on the home Government for loans to finance major undertakings. Many, with their small revenue earnings, are dependent on these loans to a far greater extent than Hongkong which finances the bulk of its development undertakings out of current revenue. Few Governments in the world today have a 100 per cent backing for their note issues and therefore the British Government is establishing no new precedent as far as the reduction of Sterling backing for Colonial funds is concerned.

U.S.-SOVIET CLASH OVER 11 AIRMEN

Lodge And Malik In Heated U.N. Debate MOTION TO GO ON AGENDA

United Nations, Dec. 6.

The United Nations Steering Committee today voted 10 to two over Russian objections to put on the General Assembly's agenda the case of 11 American airmen sentenced by Communist China as "spies."

Russia and Czechoslovakia voted against the United States demand. Burma and Syria abstained.

The vote followed a bitter exchange between U.S. Ambassador, Mr. Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr., Chief United States delegate, and Russia's Mr. Jacob A. Malik in which Mr. Lodge demanded that the U.N. act "promptly and with determination" to obtain the release of the airmen.

The resolution to be placed before the General Assembly will, it was understood tonight, ask the Secretary-General, Mr. Dag Hammarskjöld, to seek to obtain their release.

According to informed sources, the resolution will not suggest any particular way in which Mr. Hammarskjöld might act.

A VIOLATION

It was further understood that the resolution, which is sponsored by all 16 of the Allied Powers, will propose that the General Assembly find that the detention and imprisonment of the airmen is a violation of the Korean armistice agreement.

The resolution will also include a general condemnation of such violations, but without specifically mentioning the Chinese Communist authorities.

Mr. Hammarskjöld would be requested to make his first report by the end of the year.

Representatives of the 10 powers agreed on the terms of the resolution today.

Britain promptly moved that the U.N. General Assembly begin debate on "this outrage" not later than Wednesday, and without referring to a subsidiary committee for preliminary discussion.

DROPPED INTO CHINA

Russia's Jacob A. Malik alleged that the 11 airmen and two American civilians had been dropped into Chinese territory "far removed" from the Korean frontier specifically for espionage purposes.

Mr. Lodge said the U.S. would introduce a map showing radar scope readings to prove that the plane carrying the airmen was shot down on January 12, 1953, 15 miles south of the Yalu River which forms Korea's border with Manchuria. It was attacked, he said, by 12 enemy fighters and radioed a distress signal.

"The only thing on which these men could possibly have been shot down is the U.S. plane," Mr. Lodge said.

GLARING VIOLATION

"The detention of these men for more than a year after the deadline set by the armistice agreement is a glaring violation of an essential principle of the armistice agreement," he added.

"We in the United Nations cannot let these men down. They are United Nations men. They were sent to Korea in response to a request by the United Nations."

"For these reasons, the United States believes that the proposed new item should be placed on the agenda and the United Nations should act promptly to bring about the release of the 11 American airmen—as well as all other United Nations military personnel who are still being detained," Mr. Lodge declared.

Mr. Malik indignantly opposed putting the prisoners' case on the Assembly agenda.

He began by remarking that a "hostile campaign of hatred and slander has been unleashed in this connection by the American press and radio in the last few days."

"The facts which are available to the Soviet Government and others," Mr. Malik said, "leave no shadow of doubt that inclusion of this item in the agenda is wholly unwarranted."

He said that while 11 of 13 Americans sentenced by a Communist Chinese military tribunal as "spies" were military uniforms, they all carried no evidence that they were on Chinese territory for espionage and inciting an uprising against the Chinese Government.

The two civilians involved, Mr. Malik said, were employed by the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency and all 13 were flown into a Chinese province "far removed" from the Korean frontier.

CHRISTMAS SHORTAGES IN HONGKONG Dock Strike Delays Shipments

Christmas shipments of local import firms have been affected in varying degrees by the recent dock strikes in Britain, though on the whole not seriously.

One big importing firm reported today it was short of wines and spirits and winter electrical equipment.

Another importing firm reported shortages of wines and spirits. Other firms said they were short of sweets and certain brands of cigarettes.

SWEETS SHORT

A spokesman for The Dairy Farm Co., said this morning the effect on certain shipments was not of any consequence. Shipments of biscuits had been held up but were expected to arrive just before Christmas.

Jones and Co., Importers of British confectionery, have been hard hit according to a spokesman for that firm. Most of their shipments were expected to arrive on or after Christmas Day.

Gibb Livingston and Co. reported that the effect of the strikes on their Xmas shipments was not on any big scale at all, but rather on an "inconvenient" one.

EFFECT NEGLIGIBLE

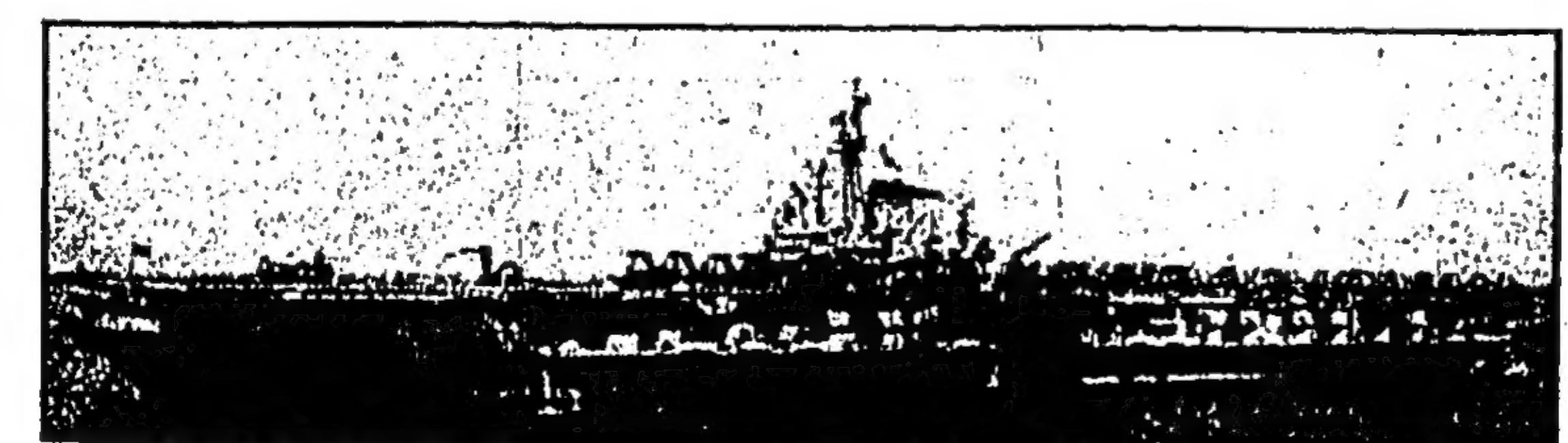
Lane Crawford's provisions department said the effect of the strikes on their provisions was negligible.

Jardine's Import Department reported that general merchandise had been affected, while Caldwell, Macgregor and Co., dealers in wines and spirits, said they were not unduly affected.

Where a shortage was found in one particular type of goods, a spokesman for this company said arrangements had been made for the duplication of the delayed shipments to be available from other ports.

Hongkong Tobacconists reported severe shortages of certain brands of cigarettes.

MONTY STARTS A CONTROVERSY



Carriers Obsolete? No Says U.S. Navy

The U.S. Navy, stung by a British Field Marshal's attack on "expensive" aircraft carriers, rallied to the defence of its 103 floating airstrips when the Assistant Secretary for the Navy, Mr. James Smith called a special Press conference today to say: "Carriers are still an enormously important weapon."

Mr. Smith called the conference to discuss Field Marshal Viscount Montgomery's statement in Los Angeles on November 29 that the Western powers should stop building aircraft carriers "at once."

He said the U.S. Navy had considered Field Marshal Montgomery's remarks.

BEST ORANCE

"We still think, however, that the aircraft carrier is an enormously important weapon. It has the best chance of survival in the very early stages of a major war," he said.

Mr. Smith said the United States had no intention of altering its 10-year programme

for the building on 60,000-ton aircraft carriers.

He also took issue with Lord Montgomery's statement that the West now had aircraft with such endurance that aircraft carriers were no longer needed to carry them to the scene of conflict.

BRITAIN FAR-SIGHTED

Mr. Smith said that both Britain and the United States certainly had long-range aircraft but he did not think they had reached the state of performance so far as endurance was concerned that they could stay in the air indefinitely.

Mr. Smith said that Britain always had been extremely far-sighted and politically astute by

securing over the centuries adequate bases for her sea and land forces.

"A look at the map shows that Britain has or has had bases for her forces all over the world," he said.

ENVIALE SITUATION

"This was a very enviable situation. The United States never had that, nor has it sought it. We have secured some bases lately through alliance and under the NATO pact. But we still need aircraft carriers to give us bases for additional deterrent forces outside the continental United States," he said.

★ Pictured above: One of America's New 60,000-ton carriers.

MOVE TO AVERT X'MAS RAIL STRIKE IN U.K.

London, Dec. 6.

Britain's railwaymen, many of whom have threatened to strike at Christmas if their pay demands are not met, were today assured that negotiations would be speeded up to meet their £8 million pay demand.

The pledge was given by Sir Brian Robertson, Chairman of the British Transport Commission, after a meeting with trade union leaders.

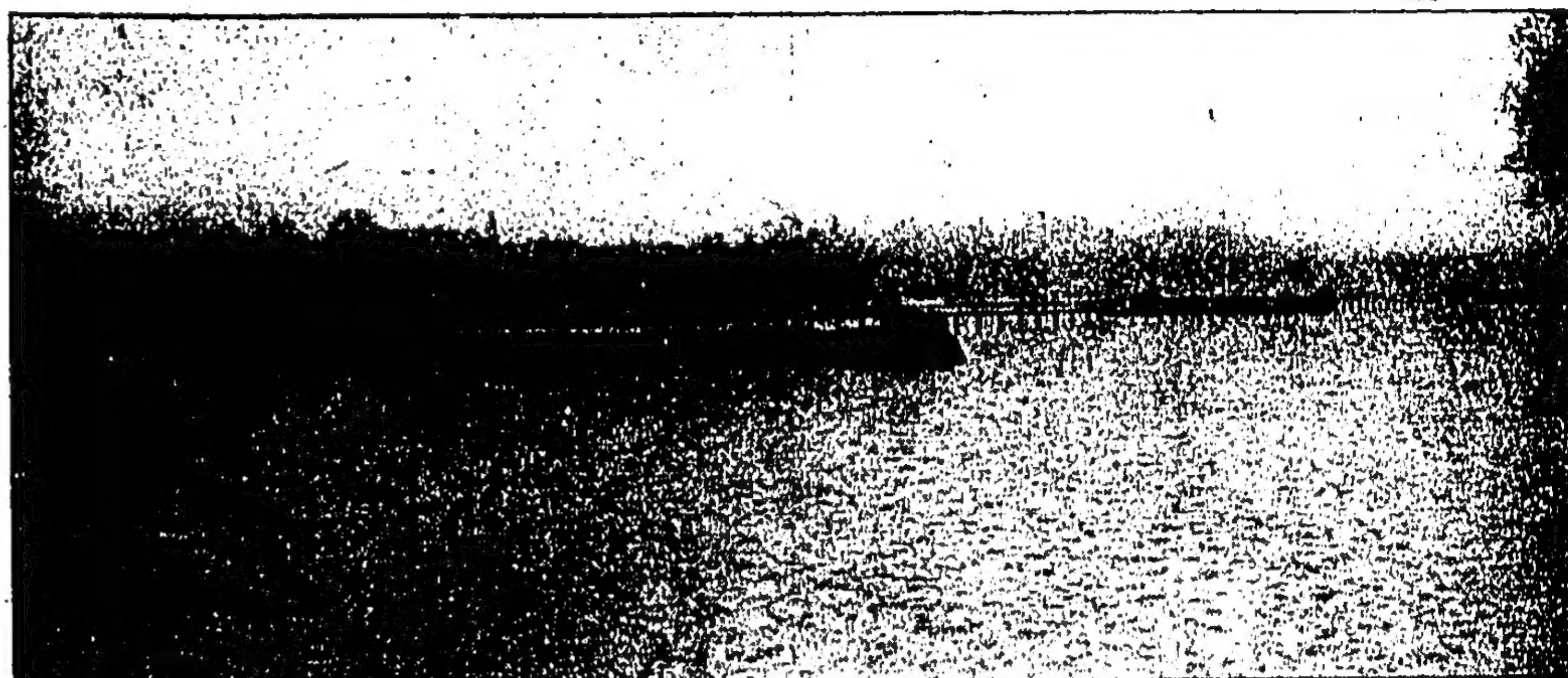
The meeting was called by the National Union of Railwaymen as a "matter of urgency."

Already leaders of 45,000 London rail workers have vowed to strike if necessary to force their demands for more pay.

Another strike ultimatum has been drawn up by 24,000 Manchester railmen.

The Union has submitted a new demand for wage rises covering a plea for a 15 per cent increase put forward in July last year.—Reuter.

FLOODS SWEEP FOUR BRITISH COUNTIES



The continuous heavy rain has caused flooding in many areas of Britain and the West Country has been particularly hard hit. Nearly 50 busy roads and hundreds of minor ones were under water resulting in widespread dislocation of traffic in Devon, Somerset, Gloucestershire and Wiltshire.

The town of Worcester was badly affected. This photograph shows a general view of the "islands" on the flooded race course at Worcester. The entire course is under water, which reaches a depth of eight feet in places.—Fox Photo.

H-BOMB CENSURE MOVE FAILS

Tories Win Commons Vote

London, Dec. 6.

Sir Winston Churchill's Government tonight defeated by 300 votes to 267 a Labour opposition censure motion alleging lack of urgency in dealing with the menace of the Hydrogen bomb.

Calling for talks with Russia on nuclear weapons, Mr. C. R. Attlee, leader of the opposition, said things were "drifting dangerously."

He felt Britain could have given a lead last April, when the House of Commons passed a unanimous resolution urging immediate talks.

NOTHING DONE

The Government accepted this with the proviso that it must be the final judge of the timing. Mr. Attlee complained tonight that eight months had passed without anything being done.

Amid Opposition cheers he declared there was an overwhelming case now for closer contacts between the British and the Soviet Governments.

Mr. Attlee felt Sir Winston Churchill had "lost his sense of urgency" since he originally proposed a Churchill-Malenkov-Eisenhower meeting.

Another war, he said, would lead to a hydrogen war and the destruction of civilisation.

INITIATIVE, WHERE?

He had talked with Russian leaders and he believed they and President Eisenhower felt that too. But somehow the thing did not get moving.

"We are looking for an initiative," he said.

Mr. Attlee said it would take a couple of years for the Paris agreements on Germany to produce actual strength.

"Are we to wait for two years until that potential strength becomes active?" he asked. "You are already in a position to make soundings," he declared.

Mr. Attlee said it was suggested there had been changes in the attitude of the Soviet leaders.

CONTACT NEEDED

"I do not pretend to know, I have been across and had contacts with Mr. Malenkov, Mr. Molotov and others and I think it would be well if some of Her Majesty's Ministers had contact with some of them," he said.

The Foreign Secretary, Sir Anthony Eden, said he hoped

US\$10 Million Sought For HK Refugees

Geneva, Dec. 6.

A United States investigator declared today that Hongkong administration should not be expected to shoulder all the burden of dealing with Chinese refugees there.

Dr. Edward Hambro, Chairman of a survey mission which studied the Hongkong situation, told the High Commissions Advisory Committee on Refugees at its fifth session here that \$10,000,000 in aid might be needed to help Hongkong refugees.

Dr. Hambro expressed admiration for the work of the Hongkong authorities and for the personal qualities of the Chinese refugees. He felt, however, that more should be done.

THREE SOLUTIONS

Dr. Hambro said there were three possible solutions—repatriation, emigration and integration in the Colony.

Voluntary repatriation to China was not acceptable to the refugees, he said. So far as emigration was concerned, it might be possible to negotiate with the Nationalist Chinese authorities in Formosa, but there were difficulties in the path of Chinese emigration to other countries.

For integration, considerable funds would be needed to help the refugees with loans and grants, and Dr. Hambro suggested that a sum of approximately US\$10,000,000 might be required for this purpose.

Dr. Hambro did not state where the money should come from. It is now up to the Committee to recommend Dr. Hambro's proposal to the High Commissioner for study. Then if the High Commissioner wishes to take action, he can make a formal request for the \$10,000,000 to the United Nations General Assembly.—U.P.

STOP PRESS MR. YOSHIDA RESIGNS

Tokyo, Dec. 7.

The Prime Minister, Mr. Shigeru Yoshida, resigned today.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Kenji Fukunaga called on the Speaker of the two Houses of Parliament at the end of a record four and a half hour cabinet meeting and five-hour conference between Mr. Yoshida and his Liberal Party leaders to notify them of the Government's decision.—United Press. (See Back Page).

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MORE POWER
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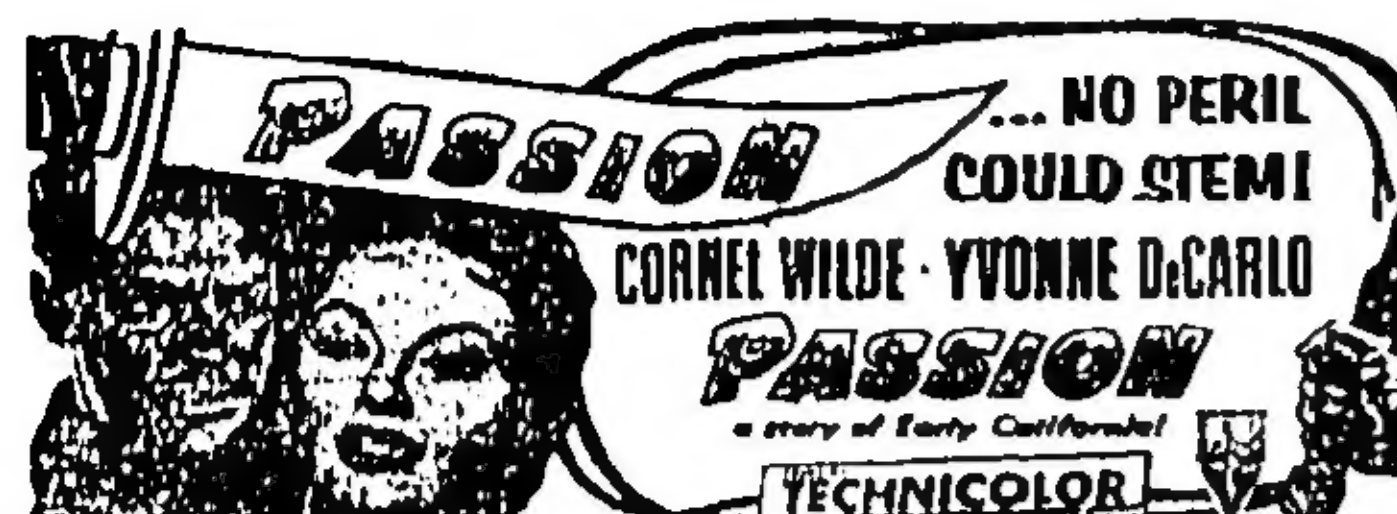
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AT 2.30, 5.00, 7.20 & 9.40 P.M.

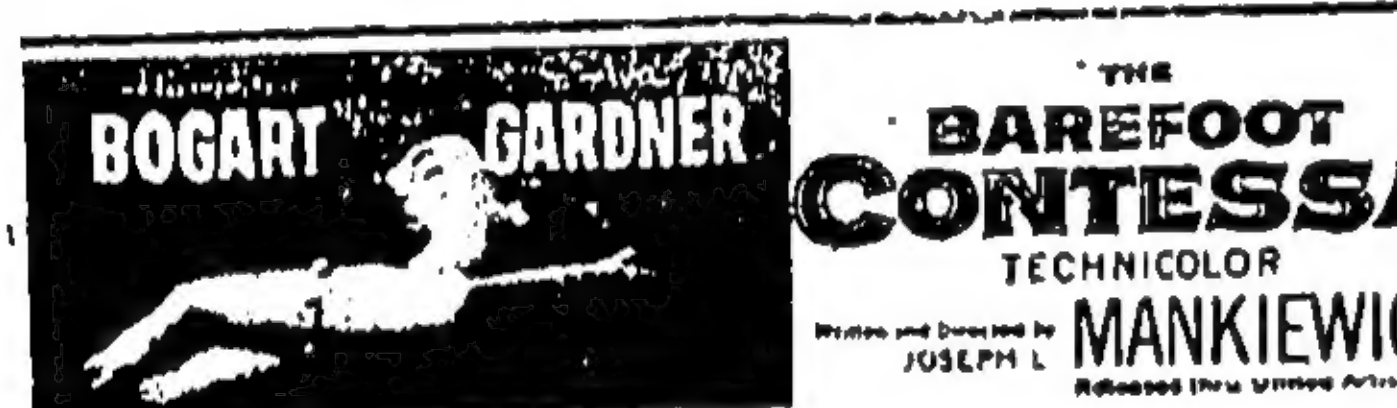
BROADWAY THEATRE SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT
Miss Ava Gardner

Has Kindly Consented to Appear in Person at this Theatre TO-NIGHT at 9.40 p.m. in Conjunction with the Showing of

"THE BAREFOOT CONTESSA"

Admission: \$6.00 to all seats.

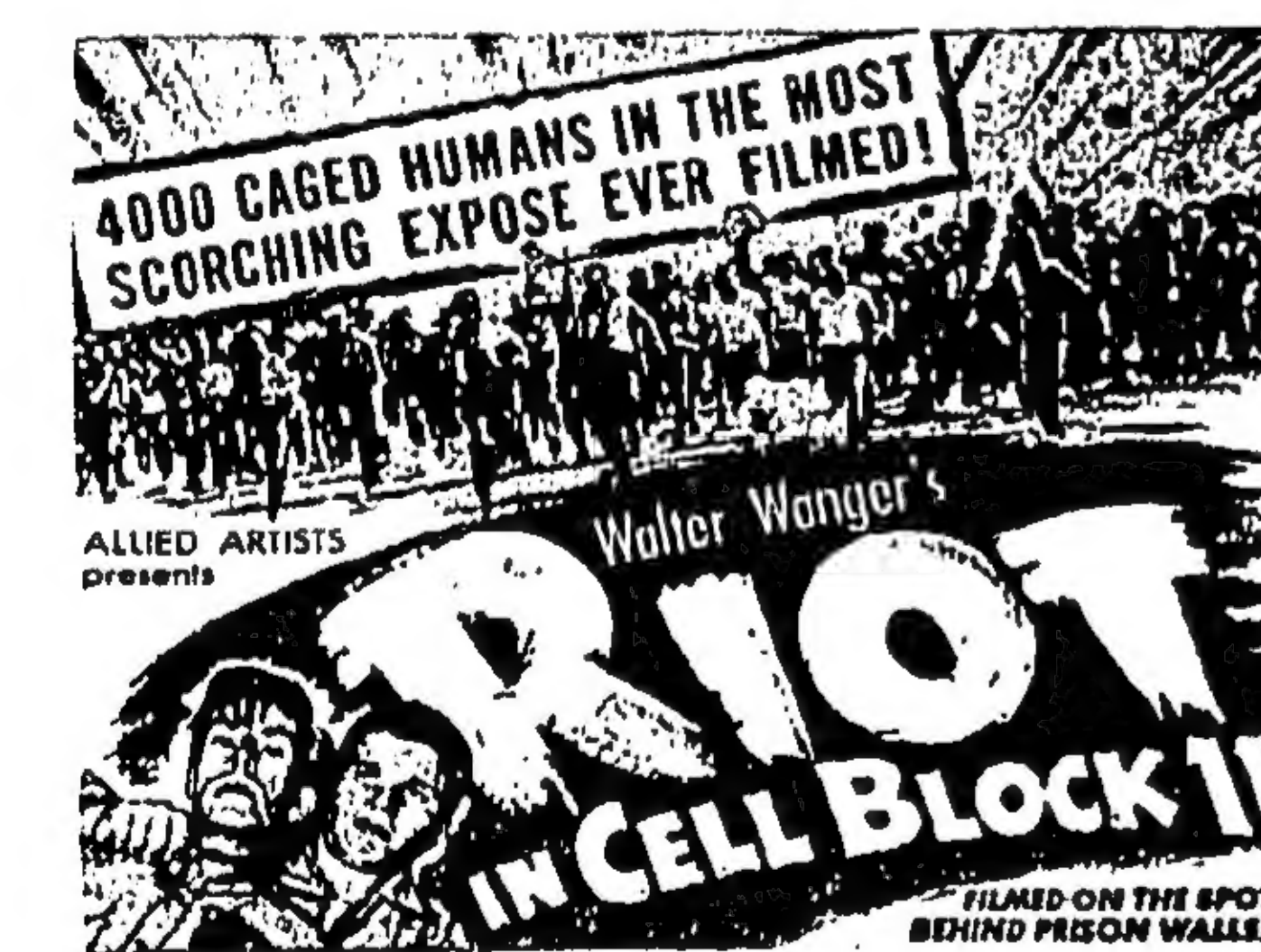
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3 SHOWS ONLY AT 2.30, 5.30 & 7.30 P.M.



TO-MORROW

"ELEPHANT WALK"

Starring: ELIZABETH TAYLOR

Colour by Technicolor

RITZ

SHOWING TO-DAY

AT 12.00 Noon, 2.45, 6.45 & 9.30 P.M.



EUROPEAN INTEGRATION



The start of the procession in Turin, in honour of Santo Domenico Savio, which was attended by high church officials and thousands of people from all parts of the Catholic world. A golden urn containing the remains of Santo Domenico Savio was carried in the procession. — Express Photo.

United States A Second-Rate Power — In 1964

Washington, Dec. 6.

A Yale Professor of international relations has prophesied that in 1964 the United States will be a "second-rate power" facing "a hostile world in virtual isolation."

Professor Gerhart Niemeyer made the gloomy prediction in an "imaginary editorial" which he described like this:

"A possible course of history is described in these pages, but the warning of this preview is coupled with a sure confidence that we have in this country the spirit, courage and intelligence to avoid such tragic failures."

COUNTRY SPLIT

Prof. Niemeyer said that in 1964 the United States would be split "over the question of war and peace" in a world overwhelmingly Communist.

"We are now reduced to the status of a second-rate power, and but little consolation can be found in the fact that we are the only power in that class," he wrote in the editorial supposed to be written in 1964.

West Holding

371 German War Criminals

Bonn, Dec. 6.
The Western powers still hold 177 convicted German war criminals in Germany and 194 others abroad, Professor Theodor Oberlander, West German Refugee Minister, said today.

They had released 260 of those held in Allied prisons in Germany in the year ended November 30, he told a Press conference.

In the same period 1,600 German prisoners of war and civilian internees were released by the Communist states, 1,180 of them from the Soviet Union. About 9,000 German prisoners of war are known to be still in Eastern camps since they are in touch with their families, Herr Oberlander said. — Router.

SOUNDPROOFING SCHOOLS

Tokyo, Dec. 7.
The Japanese Education Ministry plans to soundproof a number of schools near American military bases in the near future. The schools complain that noise from aircraft and artillery make it impossible for the children to study.

One school near Tokyo was soundproofed at a cost of about 3,000,000 yen (about £3,600). The test was successful and the Ministry will equip 18 other schools with the same soundproofing facilities. — Router.

The West Cannot Be Hurried Says UN President

New York, Dec. 6.

The President of the United Nations General Assembly, Dr Eelco N. Van Kleffens, declared tonight that Western Europe cannot be hurried into integration but with its own "novel genius" is "feeling its way in the direction of the future."

The noted Netherlands diplomat spoke before the Foreign Policy Association of the United States on "The Integration of Western Europe."

He spoke to the point with much of the same bluntness and candour that marked the recent similar statements by the French Premier, M. Pierre Mendes-France.

Dr Van Kleffens pleaded for United States understanding of just what Europe confronts in seeking unity and observed soberly that moves toward integration are being made by "its brain — much more than its heart."

"In any case," he said, "I can assure you that, no matter what the prophets of doom may tell you, we in Western Europe are not a tired, or effete, or a hopeless lot, in spite of the incredible strain, difficult for others to imagine, which war and enemy occupation put on us. Whoever has eyes may come and compare so many Western European countries now and the state they were in at the end of the war."

GREATER UNITY

Dr Van Kleffens noted that "Western Europe is aware that common danger and the technical requirements of the present age call for greater unity."

"And with its brain — much more than its heart — it is trying to make up its mind. That is the new call for unity of our day."

He cited steps toward integration and said that other co-operation would follow "even if the European Defence Community failed to be accepted by France, a decision widely deplored in all the other directly interested countries."

"It is just too early to tell what exactly will be the outcome and however impatient one feels, either as a Western European or as an American, some more time is required. You just cannot hurry these things at will."

Dr Van Kleffens said that West Europe welcomed the opinion of the United States "for we know it is given in friendship. But we ask you to give it with the will to understand."

"I am convinced that you can keep your faith in us," he said. "To do that, it may help you to understand. Understand the facts, facts which neither you nor we can change overnight, or even in a short while."

MINDS AT WORK

He said that the "best minds of Western Europe and there are many — are working on these things" that those who "think they can count Western Europe out" should merely "wait — and you will be surprised."

"In political inventiveness, as in military strength and industrial output, we will continue to be, I sincerely believe, a factor to be seriously reckoned with."

Dr Van Kleffens then reviewed the unifying and dividing forces in West Europe to illustrate what obstacles are in the way of integration. — United Press.

Austrian Chancellor At Niagara

Niagara Falls, Ontario, Dec. 6.

The Austrian Chancellor, Dr Julius Raab, left today by plane for Ottawa following a visit to the Niagara frontier marked by his first helicopter ride.



DR JULIUS RAAB

The Chancellor viewed the twin cataracts and a new Canadian power project during his 25-minute flight in a Bell helicopter yesterday. When he alighted he described his ride as "a most wonderful experience."

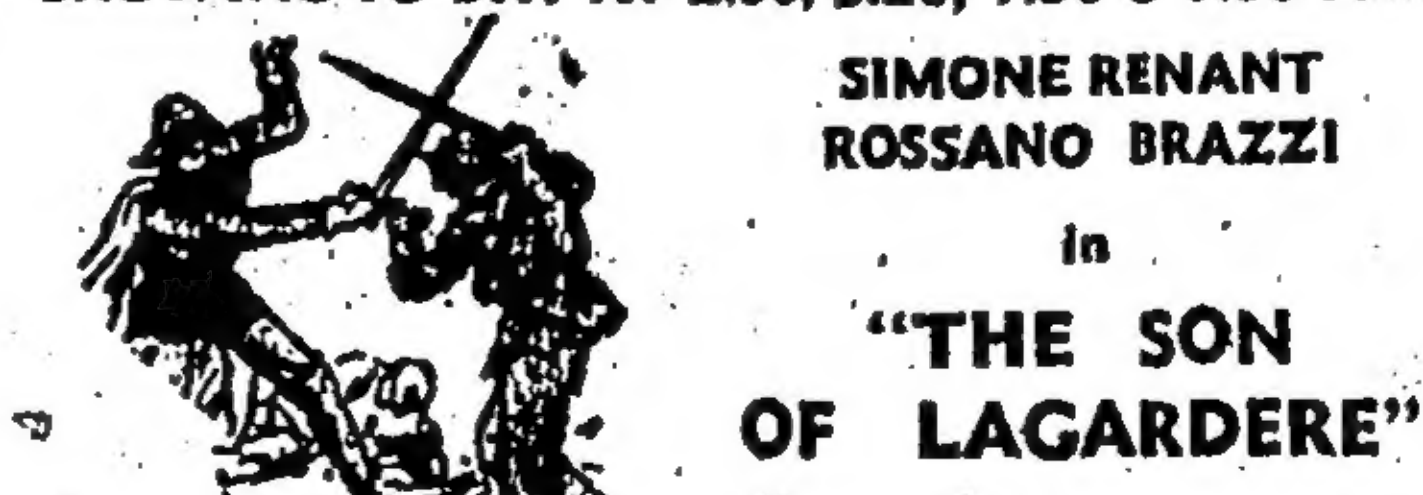
The Austrian dignitary, accompanied by Dr Karl Gruber, his country's Ambassador to the United States, arrived at Niagara Falls, N.Y., yesterday morning following an overnight train trip from New York City.

The welcoming party there included the Mayor, Mr Ernest W. Mirrington Jr., who presented him a key to the city, and Mr Lester P. Fancut, Bell Aircraft Corporation General Manager.

When Dr Raab crossed the rainbow bridge to Canada late in the day he was greeted by Mr Walter Peinsipp, Charge d'Affaires of Austria's Legation at Ottawa, and high Canadian officials. — United Press.

MAJESTIC

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"THE SON OF LAGARDERE"

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Coming Soon! "ACT OF LOVE"

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With Perspecta Stereophonic Sound

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STARTING TO-MORROW, WEDNESDAY

First Rocketship Breaks into Outer Space!

"RIDERS to the STARS"

ORIENTAL

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AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.

ON OUR GIANT WIDE SCREEN!



Road piglet



THE KOREAN QUESTION

BALACLAVA CELEBRATION

BRITAIN'S TAX FREE UTOPIA 'KING' DIES

Lundy Island, Dec. 6. Lundy Island, the only tax free Utopia in Britain, was in mourning today for its "king", 69-year-old Martin Coles Harman, who died last night in a Surrey hospital.

Harman, who started his successful career as a £1 a week clerk and rose to become head of a group controlling £17 million business corporations, ruled his vast pocket dominion like a feudal monarch.

He coined his own money, issued his own stamps (with his portrait on them), made his own laws.

Islanders went to the war, including the "king's" only son, John, who was posthumously awarded the Victoria Cross.

OUTSIDE LIMIT

But he was a benevolent ruler. His subjects paid no taxes, no rates, drank excise-free beer and spirits in a public house which stayed open at all hours.

He claimed that because the island was outside the three-mile limit it was a separate kingdom and not under British jurisdiction.

Harman bought Lundy—its Icelandic name means "puffin", a sea bird which breeds on the island cliffs—in 1925 for £10,000.

Lundy, alias Puffin Island, which lies in the mouth of the Bristol Channel is 2½ miles long and one mile wide.

A bleak, romantic place, almost entirely surrounded by cliffs, it was until the 18th century a hideout for smugglers and buccanniers. Pirate treasure is still buried on the island.

Seven years after Harman became king of Lundy, he went bankrupt. With liabilities estimated at over half a million pounds sterling.

In 1933 criminal proceedings were instituted against him for fraud and fraudulent conspiracy and after a lengthy trial he was found guilty and sentenced to 18 months' imprisonment.

HAPPY LIFE

But in the earlier, better days just after he bought his island kingdom, Harman lived a happy life.

Harman dismissed the general post office and his postmaster went into the mail delivering business himself, issuing in 1929 the famous "Puffin" stamps. At the same time he issued "Puffin" coins in the values of "one puffin" and "half puffin" each equalling the English penny and half-penny.

But the British Government did not approve of such goings on. In 1930 Harman was fined £5 for coining his "puffins" and a year later he lost an appeal in the High Court.

Harman was the only employer on the island. He kept a black list of persons unwelcome in his kingdom.

On Lundy, no one was ever much interested in news of the outside world until the last war came along and after that, when last year the revenue department began looking into the matter of the untaxed paradise.

WAR THREATS PASS

As the war came the threats soon passed. The Chancellor of the Exchequer said that even in the best weather, Lundy had at most 20 inhabitants and it was impossible to tax so small a community.

It is thought likely that the "king" will be buried on his island in the churchyard where his wife, son and past rulers of the tiny kingdom lie.—Reuters.

Chou Blames

Paris Pact For Tension

London, Dec. 6.

Mr Chou En-lai, Premier of Communist China, said today that the world situation had been made "more tense" by the Paris treaties to rearm Germany and the United States-Nationalist China mutual defence treaty.

These treaties "signified the intensification of United States sabotage in East and West," he said, according to Peking Radio.

Mr Chou was speaking at a reception given by the Finnish Minister to China, Mr Carl J. Sundstrom, to mark the 27th anniversary of Finland's independence.

"The creation of new menaces to war are resolutely opposed by the Chinese people," Mr Chou said.

Most of his speech dealt with the growth of friendly relations between China and Finland, which he said "proved the possibility that countries with different social systems could live peacefully together."—Reuters.

Madison, Wis., Dec. 6. The Wisconsin Salon of Art, lost a benefactor, the Madison Kipp Manufacturers, because it could not figure out what the Salon's abstract modern art was supposed to represent.—United Press.

'Allied Approach Made Problem Insoluble By Peaceful Means'

New York, Dec. 6.

Mr Ahmed Shukairi of Syria said today in the Political Committee of the United Nations General Assembly that the Allied approach to the Korea question "blackened out" progress and made the Korean problem "insoluble through peaceful means."

Speaking in resumed debate on Korea the Syrian delegate was also critical of the Committee's refusal to seat "all parties" involved in the question and was particularly critical of Britain and the United States showing United Nations authority in Korea while "betraying" it in Jerusalem.

CHILDREN DIE IN FIRE

Franklin, Mass., Dec. 6.

Five of the six children of a British war bride died in a fire at a wooden farmhouse here last night.

Their 30-year-old father, Reginald de Barris, told of his desperate efforts to save the children from the fire, caused by a gas stove explosion.

"I tried," the Lord knows I tried, but I could not get them," he said.

He married his wife Maureen, 20, when he was in Britain with the United States Army Air Force during the war.

The five children, who died, were aged 2 to 7. They were asleep directly above the kitchen when the stove exploded.

Mr de Barris and his wife and their sixth child, six months old, were in a room downstairs.

SPREAD QUICKLY

Flames spread rapidly to the stairway, preventing Mr de Barris reaching the children upstairs.

"I grabbed a blanket and ran into the kitchen and tried to smother the fire," he said. "It did not do any good. The flames burst all over the place."

"The flames spread so quickly I wasn't able to make it up the stairway off the kitchen. I went out front and went around the building smashing windows, trying to get in so I could go up the rear to the children."

"It did not do any good. I cut my hand and I've got burns." While Mr de Barris fought the flames his wife carried the baby out to safety.—China Mail Special.

"If the principles are denied, then negotiations are fruitless and the position of the Western powers is legitimate," said Mr Shukairi, "but if the dispute is confined to procedures, then negotiations become not only desirable but imperative; and the case of the Soviet Union is not without merit."

NOT SUBSTANTIATED To claim that certain principles were in fact denied was not substantiated by the evidence.

"We are reinforced in this attitude by the fact that all parties concerned have been refused a hearing in our deliberations," he added. "Yet we are called upon to make findings, to state conclusions and eventually to issue recommendations. The United Nations would be failing in its duties and objectives if it were to continue considering this problem in the absence of all parties concerned."

He was referring to the Committee's decision at the outset of debate on Korea to reject a Soviet motion to invite Communist China and North Korea to participate in it. One of the grounds on which the Western Allied powers successfully opposed the Soviet move was that the Assembly had condemned North Korea and China for aggression in Korea.

Mr Shukairi said that while the Assembly had rendered a judgment of aggression, it had not decided to exclude fairness. Moreover, the "aggressors" were parties to the Korean armistice agreement and had taken part in the Geneva conference. If the Assembly was determined to achieve a settlement of the Korean question through peaceful means it could not act without all the parties directly concerned.

FRUITLESS "Negotiations, we are told, are fruitless," he said. "However, negotiations are not forthcoming in the near future."

In this connection the resolution submitted to the Committee by the 15 nations that fought in Korea "suppressed" the idea of future negotiations and led to "nowhere." The Committee was only being asked to approve the Allied report on the Geneva conference whose "general tone of despair" was "depressing."

"The conclusion is sad," said Mr Shukairi. But to block out progress is most saddening. The problem stands insoluble through peaceful means."

Mr Liu Chieh of China agreed with the Allied contention that the wisest course for the United Nations was to maintain the status quo in Korea and "let time play its part" in the hope that the future would bring a solution to the problem.

"The least we can do is to give solid support to the 15 powers who had negotiated in Korea and to approve the report they have presented to the Committee," he said.

Mr Liu said that the United Nations should repudiate emphatically the Soviet Union's suggestion to relax the ban on strategic materials to North Korea and Communist China. The organization should not take any decision which would weaken the situation in Korea today.

NOT CLOSED Mr Walter Lordin of Belgium said that it was completely wrong to contend that the report of the 15 powers on Geneva closed all doors to negotiation. He hoped that negotiations would be resumed but the cause of peace would gain nothing if another conference was convened which was destined in advance to failure. For that reason his delegation could not vote in favour of the Soviet resolution.

Certain pre-conditions had to be established if the proposed conference were to serve

a useful purpose, he said, and Belgium would not favour the convening of a conference until the Communist countries had agreed to these conditions.

The delegates of Poland and Byelorussia both spoke in support of the Soviet resolution calling for an early Korean conference and opposed the 15-power Allied resolution. They said that the report of the 15 powers furnished an "incorrect version" of the conference, the failure of which was due to the attitude of those 15 states.

Mr Stanislaw Skrzyszewski of Poland, in a long speech, reviewed the work of the Armistice Supervisory Commission, of which Poland was a member, and said that it could not be denied that the Commission had met with difficulties. But its work was improving.

He recalled that Mr Rolf Sohlman of Sweden had maintained that the Commission's chief obstacle was the four-nation membership which prevented majority decisions. The Polish delegate said that the Commission should only work on the principle of "agreed decisions" and not on a majority vote.

INFLUENCE TO BEAR Mr Stanislaw Skrzyszewski said that all states should bring their influence to bear to ensure the security of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission and the United States must permit the Commission to carry out its work properly.

The representatives of South Korea had made charges of "unprecedented slander" in the Committee, he asserted including allegations of espionage by some members of the Commission. Not only had the Polish and Czechoslovak delegates on the Commission suffered attacks but so had the Swiss and Swedish members. For example the Swedish representative once had been "slapped" by an American private and a Swiss member of an inspection team had made a statement disassociating Swiss personnel from American units.

The Committee then adjourned.—Reuters.

Canadians To Withdraw Brigade

Ottawa, Dec. 6.

The Canadian Government plans to withdraw the remainder of the 25th Canadian Infantry Brigade from Korea early next year, it was learned today, according to the Canadian news agency, Canadian Press.

"We expect that all Canadian troops will be out of Korea early next year and that we can clear Korea out of books," a Defence Department official said.

No definite date had been set for withdrawal of the last Canadian soldier from Korea.—Reuters.



The Queen Mother dancing with Colonel Coombe, Colonel of the 11th Hussars, when she attended the Ball at the Hyde Park Hotel in London to celebrate the centenary of the Battle of Balaklava.—Central Press Photo.

CLEVER LONDON GANG BROKEN UP

London, Dec. 6.

One of the London underworld's most cleverly organised criminal gangs was broken up today by gaoi sentences on four men.

The gang included the country's nimblest cat burglar, an insurance broker with secret information about burglar alarms in the various establishments the gang robbed and an ex-public schoolboy who lived like a man of wealth but was known to the underworld as "Peter the Plotter."

The four men were found guilty at the Old Bailey, London's Central criminal court, of conspiring between October 1951 and July 1954 to rob "Her Majesty's subjects."

The gang consisted of: Harold Lough White, sentenced to seven years' imprisonment, son of a well-known London doctor. The underworld knew him as "Peter the Plotter" during jewel theft and safebreaking. But immaculately dressed and frequenting the best hotels and night clubs his side of his life was unsuspected by his neighbours in the block of luxury flats where he lived. He owned three fast cars—able to outstrip any police car that chased it after a country house jewel robbery.

George Chatham, the cat burglar, sentenced to 10 years' preventive detention. He took part in a raid by the gang after escaping from a prison where he was awaiting trial on other charge.

Gordon Simpson, the insurance broker, sentenced to six years' imprisonment. It was stated in court he had "declared war on society." Working with a Lloyds firm of underwriters he had access to information about the burglary safeguards of many establishments. The gang made use of this information.

STOLE GOLD LEAF Robert Melrose, sentenced to 10 years' preventive detention. He left prison only last March after serving a seven years' sentence.

White, Melrose and Chatham were all found guilty of breaking into a workshop and stealing gold leaf and other property worth £37,000. Simpson was found guilty of being an accessory after the act.

White was also found guilty of breaking into a factory.—China Mail Special.

Bohlen Returning To Russia

Washington, Dec. 6.

The United States Ambassador to the Soviet Union, Mr Charles Bohlen, will return to his post in Moscow next Wednesday, a State Department spokesman said today.

Mr Bohlen has been in Washington for consultations for the past two weeks.—France-Press.

FATHER DIDN'T WANT CABARET GIRL IN FAMILY

Paris, Dec. 6.

His Excellency, honourable Minister in the Japanese Government, Mr Yamamoto, was very angry. He had sent his daughter Yoshiko, in Paris, a message, urging her to come back to her ancestors' land—the land of the Rising Sun—and the daughter had flatly refused.

The beautiful Yoshiko had begun life in Los Angeles. She was at that time a student and, one day, she was attracted by the announcement that a contest would be held to nominate "Miss Television."

She believed that she had a chance and, in fact, clad in a peach-coloured bathing suit, she came first of 400 competitors.

Scores of photographers took her picture but when her father, Mr Yamamoto, drinking his morning cup of green tea, saw her picture in scant attire reproduced in Japanese newspapers, he nearly had a stroke.

He ordered her back but she decided otherwise. As the peace treaty had not been signed yet and she was unable to find a job in the United States, she came to France.

"I shall stay only two months there and come back," she cabled home. But she was still here recently.

When she arrived in Paris, she was persuaded by some friends to sign in a night club.

She sang American, French and Japanese songs and it was a triumph.

She thus managed to do without her father's money which had been cut off following her refusal to return home.

"I do not want a cabaret singer in the family," father Yamamoto had said.

The father, however, finally realised that his daughter was not a failure after all, since he had not to send her any money for a long time.

In fact, she had become one of the most famous exotic singers in Paris.

SEE PARENTS Yoshiko, in the end, agreed to return to Japan—for a short time, in order to see her old parents.

But when she left Paris for Marseilles recently, where she was due to embark on a ship bringing her back to Japan, she said, "It is hard to go away."—France-Press.

PIED PIPER WANTED

Tokyo, Dec. 6. Tokyo health authorities today estimated each rat in Tokyo caused an estimated 9,000 yen (£9) worth of damage each year.

The authorities said there were about 20 million rats in the city which did an estimated 180,000 million yen (£180,000,000) worth of damage each year.

The authorities said campaigns to exterminate rats had not been effective because of lack of funds and lack of co-operation from citizens. Many of whom would not agree to expend 10 yen (about 2d) for rat poison.—China Mail Special.

Recovered Use Of Legs During 'Quake

Port of Spain, Dec. 6.

A series of weekend earthquakes ending early today resulted in at least one death, injuries to several persons and thousands of families left homeless.

The one fatality was a five-week-old baby, killed by the collapsing roof of its home at Sangregrande. Its mother was seriously injured and is in a hospital, ignorant of her baby's death.

A 20-year-old man, a helpless cripple for years, was said to have recovered the use of his legs when the strongest quake struck on Saturday.

The man, released from a hospital the day before after an operation, had been told by the surgeons he would be bedridden for life. When he felt the quake he rolled out of bed to pray on his knees. Then he got up, although he was supposed to be paralysed below the waist.

In a broadcast tonight, the Governor urged the people to be calm in the event of further shocks. More than 100 tremors have been recorded in the last 48 hours and more are expected. United Press.

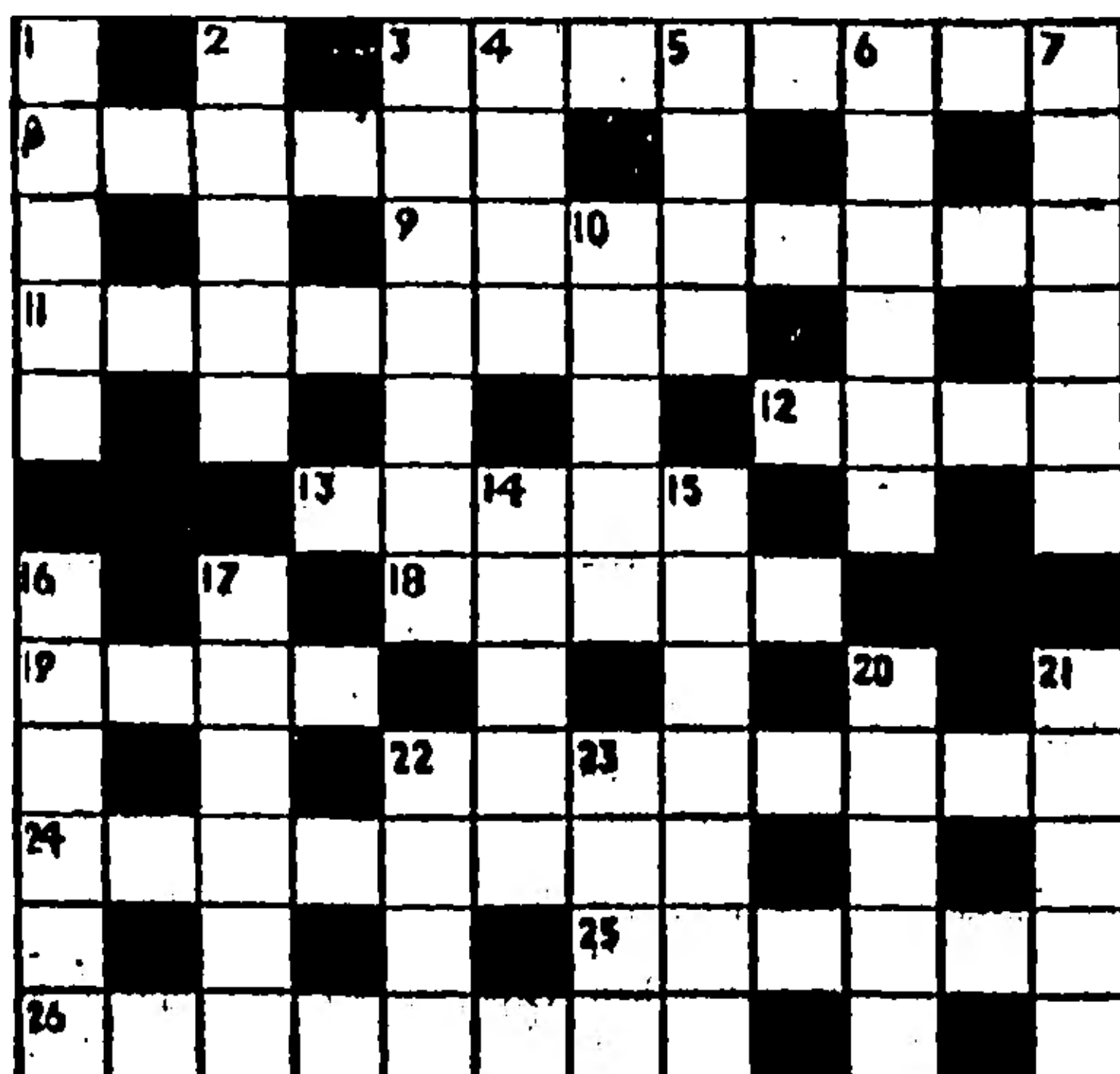
Not So Cold In The Yukon

Edmonton, Alberta, Dec. 6.

The weather office reported today that the cold snap has ended at the village of Snug in the Yukon territory.

After a low of 52 degrees below zero on Saturday night the temperature warmed up to 35 below or so on Sunday.—United Press.

A British Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS
3 Preference (8).
8 Spanish dance (8).
9 Slubbard (8).
11 Chirps (8).
12 Vendetta (4).
13 On the move (6).
14 Decadence (6).
15 Accustomed (4).
22 Business chief (8).
24 Bull-fighter (8).
25 Help (6).
26 Nautical (8).

DOWN
1 Diminish (6).
2 Unadorned (6).
3 Object (7).
4 Garment (4).
5 Responsibility (4).
6 Likeness (6).
7 Clives in (6).
10 Sewer (8).
14 Lukewarm (6).
15 Opposite (7).
16 Habit (6).
17 Extreme right (6).
20 Denude (6).
21 Anger (6).
22 Crazy (6).
23 Wander (4).

YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD—Across: 3 Familiar, 7 Odour, 8 Espousal, 10 Amulet, 13 Recluse, 15 April, 17 Present, 18 Monitor, 20 Unit, 21 Reapers, 26 Nickel, 27 Immaculate, 28 Candy, 29 Gargoyles, Down: 1 Molar, 2 Begun, 3 Frenzied, 4 Idol, 5 Immense, 6 Result, 9 Stupor, 11 Molon, 12 Lullaby, 14 Elixir, 16 Apple, 18 Injury, 19 Mutilate, 19 Nipper, 24 Place, 25 Eking, 26 Blazes, 28 Alto.

Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer



By Robert L. May



ONASSIS WHALING:

An Englishman
Loses Out

From HUGH DUNDAS

Lima. ONE of the biggest losers financially as a result of the Onassis whaling fleet's activities off the Peruvian coast is Englishman Mr Bert Balshaw. For Mr Balshaw is the principal partner in a business firm which has many interests in Peru, including a whaling fleet of five vessels.

And he tells me that he might as well pack up that side of the business altogether if shipping millionaire Aristotle Onassis is to be allowed to carry on his big-scale operations every year.

Last year for instance when Onassis did not operate in these waters, Balshaw's fleet took two hundred and fifty whales in November, which is the month when they migrate south in large numbers down the Peruvian coast.

This November Balshaw's ships have taken only about sixty. And they must take at least one hundred to break even. There is no doubt about the reason for Balshaw's reverse. Onassis has cleaned up.

Oil Yield

And I have at last found out how much oil he has got aboard the factory ship Olympic Challenger now held captive in Paita Harbour. There are 6,726 tons of the stuff. And that represents nearly 1,700 whales. No wonder there is not much left for Bert Balshaw.

Balshaw, a vigorous, square-jawed man about 50, who came to Peru 27 years ago as a poor man and is now a millionaire, tells me the Onassis fleet would in a few years practically exterminate the species if it went on like this. And of course not a penny of the profit goes to Peru, which has in the past benefited both in the form of revenue and employment from the annual migration of the whales down the coast.

That is the background of the situation which led President Odria to take the extraordinary

action of ordering warships and bombers out to capture the Onassis fleet which, though the German captain denied it, was definitely to be seen operating in the main current where whales abound between 40 and 60 miles off the coast.

Though the Peruvian authorities here are now considerably worried about the repercussions of their buccannery exploit, they are definitely not in the mood to climb down.

And it now looks as though the captured ships are not going to be released in a hurry. It is the navy's intention to keep them up at Paita until the matter is officially referred to arbitration or Onassis comes across with some of his millions.

Big Stake

Either way it is unlikely that the fleet will get out in time to get down to the hunting season in the Antarctic. It should really be on the way now.

The main cause of concern for Peruvians is the attitude of Britain and America.

Americans have a stake in the matter because there are big US tuna fishing interests along the coast.

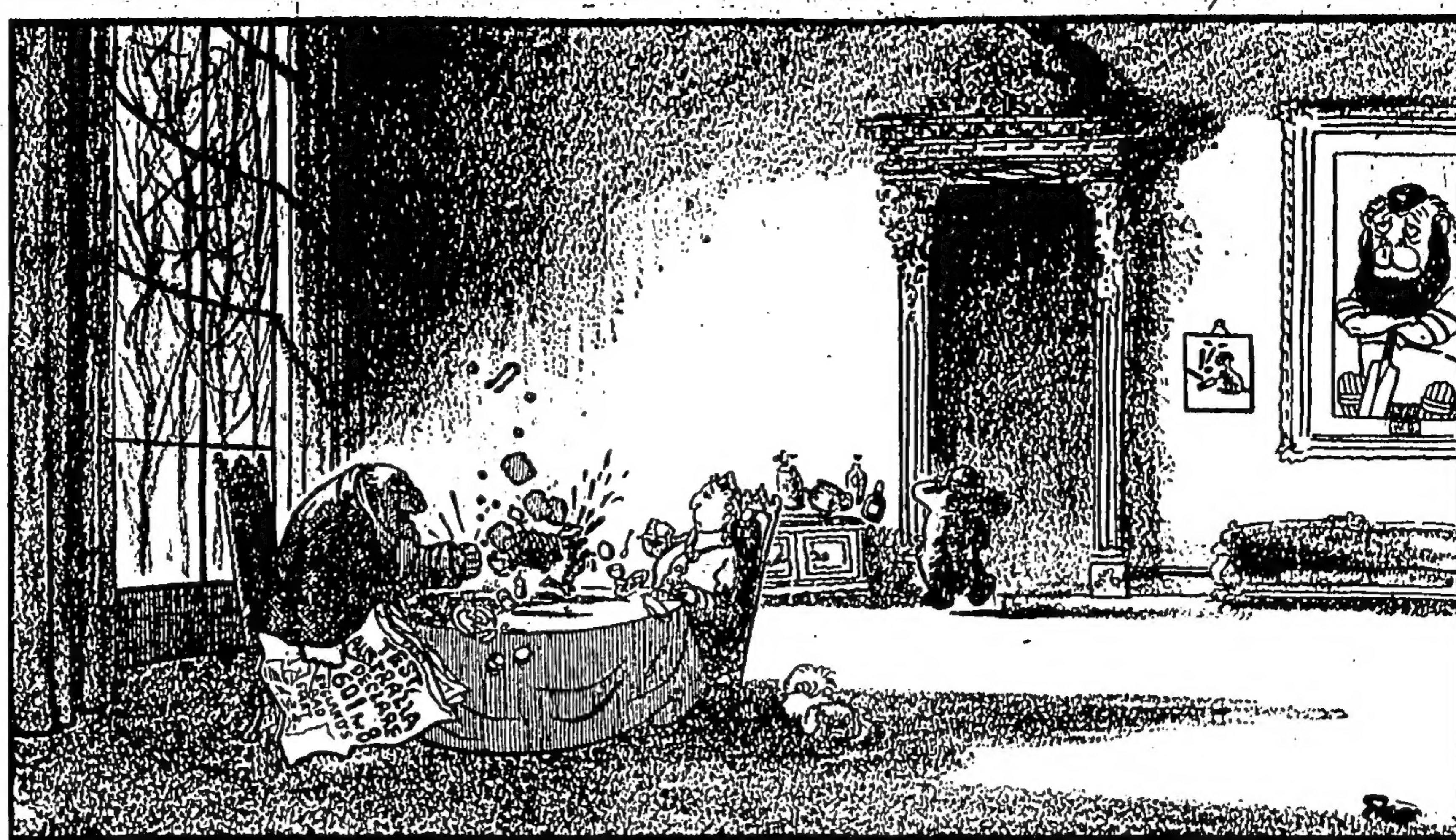
I have met some of these people up at Paita and Pura. And though so far none of their boats has been stopped there is considerable uneasiness.

But probably the Peruvian Government, which has been formally warned that the United States does not recognise the 200 mile extension of territorial waters, will have the sense not to interfere with this U.S. business operation.

In any case it brings revenue and employment up and down the coast.

Probably, therefore, the Onassis affair will drag on here at least long enough for Peruvian dignity to be maintained.

And the only people who will suffer are members of the Government who are having to pay up to the tune of hundreds of thousands of pounds and unfortunate crewmen of the whalers who are losing a fat percentage of profit they get for every whale caught.



"Martha! Will you kindly refrain from chirping 'Hush, dear, it's Churchill's birthday!'"

London Express Service

MEMO TO MR. LENNOX-BOYD: DON'T FORGET
THE GENERAL WHO WAITS IN WHITEHALLMAKE HIM THE EMPIRE
TROUBLE-SHOOTER

By Ian Colvin

INTO the Mediterranean for a busy week-end flies Mr Alan Lennox-Boyd, the Colonial Secretary. His task: to deal with a hot dispute in Malta about duty-free liquor and cigarettes.

The trouble lies between the Maltese Premier, Borg Olivier and NATO. The privileged NATO staff consider themselves entitled to their Scotch and cigarettes at one tenth of the price that Maltese civilians pay. They ask tax exemption too.

This is one of the minor quarrels which strain the ties of Empire. And it will crop up again in Cyprus when the headquarters staff of Middle East Command move to that crowded island from the Suez base.

If the Colonial Secretary does not mind spending most of his time out of Whitehall in the air, he could make similar "peace" trips every week-end. On the problems of his department the sun never sets.

IN A WORD

BUT much more serious demands are made on the time of Mr Lennox-Boyd.

And there is a single word which sums up all these heavier troubles—SUBVERSION.

The Commonwealth Conference, when it meets in January, should put subversion high up on its agenda. For however the statesmen of East and West may disagree, Mao Tse-tung, Malenkov, Churchill, and Dulles may be in full accord on this one point:—

With the danger of large-scale wars receding, it is subversion that will worry the world in the future.

See how subversion stretches through the Continents.

Look first at Africa. In KENYA the Mau Mau are suffering higher casualties in the field. Their losses are nearly 7,000 against 50 of the defence forces pursuing them.

HEAVY STRAIN

IT is possible for arms to reach them through the Sudan; now that Britain has given away its defence position there.

And the British position is weakened by the fact that at the summit we have in Sir Evelyn Baring an able Colonial administrator.

His period of office has been a strain heavy enough

to warrant a new post for him.

Over to NORTH AFRICA. From M. Mendes-France comes an urgent warning and an appeal. The Arab League, protected and directed by Colonel Nasser, is sending arms and agitators into French possessions there.

And LIBYA, a British military base but not under British administrative control since the Foreign Office worked out a sovereign constitution for it, is no barrier to the Egyptian plotters.

Then consider how subversion spreads in Asia.

In SIAM there is a secret rebellion gathering.

From CHINA Mao Tse-tung proclaims the results of his pan-Chinese census of population.

It gives him 550 million inside the Chinese Republic and a claim to 50,000,000 outside it—many of them in British Colonies.

Powerful States like INDIA have to face surprises. As Nehru prepares to go to Moscow the Communists emerge as the most powerful party in the province of Andhra, a State of 21,000,000.

The President of India, Dr Prasad, dissolves the Andhra Assembly and puts the State under governor's rule.

General Sir Gerald Templer, most imaginative and forceful personality to rise in the Army since Montgomery, went home from Southeast Asia in June and has been out of work since.



TEMPLER Rests on his laurels

Subversion too it is that threatens EASTERN PAKISTAN, a key to the defence of the free world from the penetration of China.

How does America deal with subversion? She turns to a general.

When the first rumours reached Washington that the severed State of South Vietnam was being rapidly undermined, Eisenhower sent General Lawton Collins there on a training mission.

The general has not been long in Saigon before he announces that American officers will be training Vietnamese troops in the tactics that have stopped aggression elsewhere.

Does the success of General Collins not prompt Mr Lennox-Boyd to ask himself a question?

Has Britain no Collins who could be the British Empire's trouble-shooter? No outstanding military figure equipped to tackle subversion in her own territories?

Of course she has. There is such a man waiting now for a job in a room of the War Office.

General Sir Gerald Templer, most imaginative and forceful personality to rise in the Army since Montgomery, went home from Southeast Asia in June and has been out of work since.

He has made sudden descents into hazardous areas and electrified troops and civilians alike with his presence.

Templer has coolly paid one terrorist for bringing in the body of another, and made rapid visits forward to disrupt the Communist rebels with promises of terms.

His dynamic energy could be flung into the endles battle against subversion. He could become the vital connecting link between our furthestmost trouble-areas and Mr Lennox-Boyd's desk at the Colonial Office.

Sir Gerald said that his last job in Malaya was 25 percent military and 75 percent political. Soldiers who can do that kind of job well are rare indeed.

We cannot afford to allow Templer to waste time.

TITO UP TO
NEW TRICKS

By CHARLES WARINGTON

Belgrade. IS Tito getting worried? Or is the wily old man of the mountains working up a new plan to play the East off against the West?

There are no clear-cut answers in this bustling capital where everybody works overtime and few dare to discuss politics.

But one thing is sure—something is up.

Only a month ago, Tito was hinting at a Balkan Pact.

A few days before that, he was saying that Yugoslavia might sign up with a West European union if Germany and France could patch up their quarrel and if the pact was not purely military.

Last week he announced coldly, "Yugoslavia is opposed to the creation of any blocs in Europe."

And he went on to say specifically that he would have no truck with any Atlantic Pact. Moreover, he would like to see a general conference of European powers—provided everybody wanted one and everybody had time to prepare for it.

In short, after six years—the years since his big break with Stalin—of gently insinuating himself into the Western camp, Tito has come out on a flat neutralist line.

Surprise Visits

Perhaps it has something to do with the surprise visits from Russian ambassador Vasily Volokov and something to do with the recent Russian "buttering up."

It is not likely that Tito is influenced by soft words from Moscow. But it is just possible that Moscow has been backing the soft words with hard threats.

Some people here think so anyway.

With Malenkov's satellites sitting in a neat ring around him Tito is an easy mark for infiltration. And he still has his troubles inside, too.

The sturdy Montenegrins who held out against the Turks for a thousand years are still not very fond of Tito. They are rugged individualists and they might not require much encouragement to revolt.

Something Cagey

On the other hand it is possible that Tito has been watching the Western build-up with a view toward finding the right moment to plug the neutralist line.

Once the Paris agreement is signed and West Germany is armed and linked with France, the West may feel that the time to negotiate with the Russians has come.

Whatever the new settlement turns out to be, it would probably be better for Yugoslavia to stand aloof and make its deals when it happens. After all, Tito is forced to live astride the Iron Curtain in more ways than one.

There is not only his geographical position but his ideological position to be considered. He could be squashed by Red armies whenever the Russians chose, and he might easily be cold-shouldered by Westerners who would think twice about going to war to protect a Marxist dictatorship.

So far, the wily sharp-shooter in Belgrade has always come out on top. Whatever he is up to now it almost certainly something cagey.

DYNAMIC

AND it was his quick brain rather than sheer force that won him laurels in the Communist war. And he has had to rest on those laurels ever since. This is a man who is practised in dealing with SUBVERSION.

Mr Lennox-Boyd could make fine use of him. He could send him travelling round the Empire's danger-spots to probe, advise, and report.

His dynamic energy could be flung into the endles battle against subversion. He could become the vital connecting link between our furthestmost trouble-areas and Mr Lennox-Boyd's desk at the Colonial Office.

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What It Is Like To Be Dead

A CHINA MAIL SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
DESCRIBES WHAT HAPPENED TO A YOUNG DOCTOR

Edinburgh. A YOUNG doctor sat in the lounge of a North-of-Scotland hospital a few days ago and quietly explained what it's like to be dead.

And he said it was one of the pleasantest experiences of his life.

The doctor—whose name must be withheld under the unwritten code of British medical ethics—explained that he was recovering from a serious operation.

Pain wracked, he lay on the bed.

Suddenly the pain left him. He knew what had happened. Carefully he felt his pulse. It had stopped. He listened for the beat of his heart. There was none.

From his medical knowledge he knew that there was a good chance that the operation would strain his heart to the limit. That is what had happened.

He was dead. "I felt nothing but a wonderful feeling of peace and a warm comfort. Everything was serene by easy."

"Then I thought all at once how sad it was that I should not see my wife and child again. I rang the bedside bell for help."

Hospital doctors gave him a shot of adrenaline and some oxygen. Slowly his heart began to beat again—and he came back to life.

STARTLING CASE

The story can be corroborated. But the doctor is having a hard time making people believe it.

Could it really happen? Or was he just almost dead?

Some medical authorities believe that experience like the doctor's really do happen, and that he could have been, quite literally, dead.

For instance, on February 26, 1927, Sir Auckland Geddes reported an even more startling case in an address to the Royal Medical Society.

The bulk of his speech was a shorthand record taken by a skilled secretary of the statement made by a doctor as other doctors brought him back to life.

The doctor outlined his symptoms just before he died and explained that he had "wanted to ring for assistance" but found that he could not.

"By 10 o'clock respirations and pulse became impossible to count. I realised that I was very ill."

"Thereafter at no time did my consciousness become dimmed, but I suddenly realised that my consciousness was separating from another consciousness which was also me. (The latter) I recognised as belonging to my body."

It began to disintegrate while the other consciousness which was now me seemed to be altogether outside my body which it could see.

"Gradually I realised that I could now see not only my whole body but everything in the whole house and garden and everything in London."

and Scotland . . . (and) whatever my attention was directed upon."

"The explanation I received (from what) I found myself calling my mentor was that I was free in a time-dimension of space."

CASES ON FILE

"Just as I began to grasp (all this) I saw 'A' enter my bedroom . . . and hurry to the telephone. I saw my doctor leave his patients and come very quickly . . ."

"As my heart began to beat . . . I was intensely annoyed. I came back into the body really annoyed . . ."

Asks Sir Auckland: "What are we to make of this? The one thing only can be sure. It was not a fake. Without certainty of this, I should not have brought it to your notice."

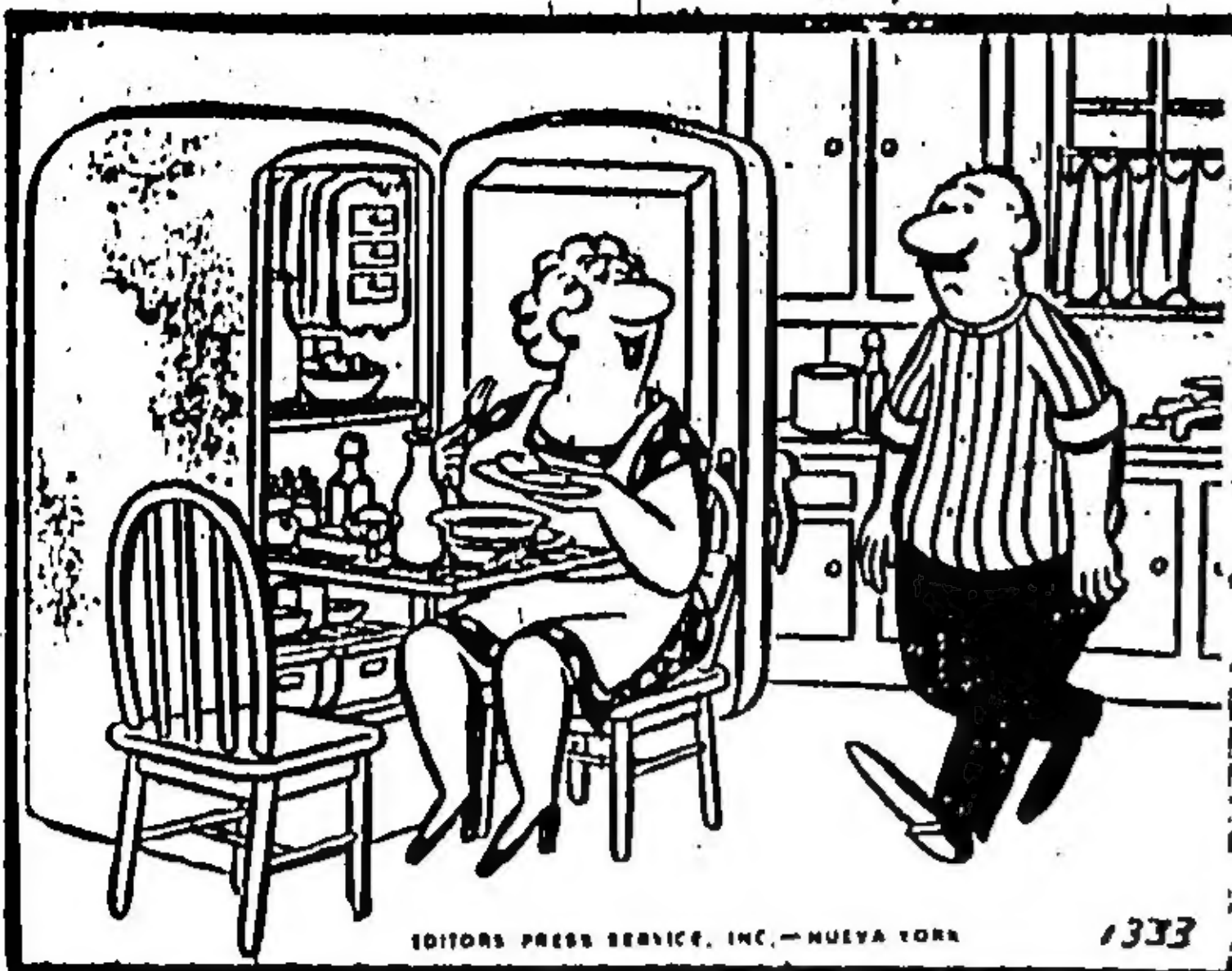
There are other cases—almost as dramatic—on the files. But they all end up with Sir Auckland's question: "What are we to make of it?"

Miniature Masterpieces for Milady...

ROLEX

Superbly elegant - Precisely accurate

Rolex offer a miniature watch of superb elegance, yet with a movement large enough to be a marvel of accuracy—truly the best obtainable!



"I decided we'd just have something nice and simple for lunch today."

• BY THE WAY • by Beachcomber

IT is amazing that people should still admit to their homes anybody who tells them their telephone is out of order—especially if he is "well dressed," "nicely spoken," and has an "Oxford accent" (whatever that may be).

I suppose householders would be still more favourably impressed and still more amenable if the visitor said, "I am a peer of the realm, and have called to see your gamemaster."

My dear, of course I suspected him. He hadn't said to him name, or I refused to let him look at the dustbin.

Household hints

How to lift beetroot into a vase: The beetroot must be cut into very small pieces, or passed through a mincer. If the pieces are too large, the beetroot will be too heavy to lift. The pieces should be lifted through the vase, using the little finger for preference. The vase should have a wide neck so that the beetroot particles do not fall on to the floor.

Tough man, tougher joint

A MAN who complained of the toughness of his meat ran into the kitchen of the

restaurant where a booby in a high white hat was carving a joint of mutton with blows of a hatchet. The man shouted, "I'm gonna bust this joint wide open!" So saying, he aimed a wicked blow at the mutton, sprained his wrist, and sprang back with a howl of pain.

(G. L. S. News Agency).

The coming contest

INTERVIEWED at his home, Bryn Hador, Abernethy, Evans the Harse revealed that he was suffering from "pepper's nose," a slight inflammation caused by the contact of the nostrils with mother earth, or mother rock, in the case of Evans, whose practice is done on rough, rocky ground.

The question of amateur status has again arisen, as Evans is said to have accepted a pinch of Nozot from Flib, and Mold General Phinn central Preparation Limited. As soon as he is well enough to push peas again, Evans will meet his old enemy, Dicky Dodd, the Market Harborough virtuoso, who covered a flat mile in 11 hours, and four minutes last month. Dodd is at his Ipswich training quarters, smashing his nose through cardboard walls, to strengthen it and pre-punching with alternate postels.

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A MAN who complained of the toughness of his meat ran into the kitchen of the

YOUR BIRTHDAY By STELLA

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7

BORN today you may not have a life that is all a bed of roses. While holding out talents with one hand, you are also placing obstacles in the way of your success. However, with the aid of determination, and concentration to a single objective, you may reach the heights which should be yours. You have exceptional gifts in the fields of music and literature. Recognition may not come to you as early as you might wish, and this can bring bitterness and disappointment. Never permit yourself to become the prey of a setback. Recognise the fact that this will be but a temporary condition, that soon the tide will turn in your favour if you hold to a constructive, optimistic attitude.

Your personal magnetism is marked, and when all else appears to fail you—that is still present to help you over a rocky road. Never hesitate to make use of this—it is one of the compensatory gifts which has been given you! You have a

quick intuitive mind though often you can give no reason for your beliefs and this makes it difficult for you to convince others. Now, as you grow older, your gift of making the right decision under stress will be required by all who know you. When something needs to be done, you always seem to be the one to do it.

Your affections are strong and you are easily influenced through your emotions, when you are moved by reason. Be very cautious in marriage for you would be happier unaided, surrounded by a family who was not absolutely compatible.

Among those who were born on this date are: Hugh McCulloch, statesman; Heywood Brown, newspaperman; Pietro Mascagni, composer; Fay Bainter, actress; Willa Cather, author; and Rudolph Firl, composer.

To find what the stars have in store for you tomorrow, select your birthday star and read the corresponding paragraph. Let your birthday star be your daily guide.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8

Now, your wisdom should be sound when it comes to making a decision. Judge by all the known facts.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 20): A new idea might be developed into a real paying project. See that it gets to the right person. Good ideas are accepted by the boss.

PISCES (Feb. 19-Mar. 20): You may be as progressive as you wish now. Develop a plan you may have had to postpone for a while.

ARIES (Mar. 21-Apr. 19): You should be able to advance your personal welfare considerably now. Be aggressive and push your plans.

TAURUS (Apr. 20-May 21): That inspiration you have been waiting for is now ready to be brought out from your subconscious and used to advantage.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21): Aspects are excellent for your advancement. You might receive a promotion and a salary raise.

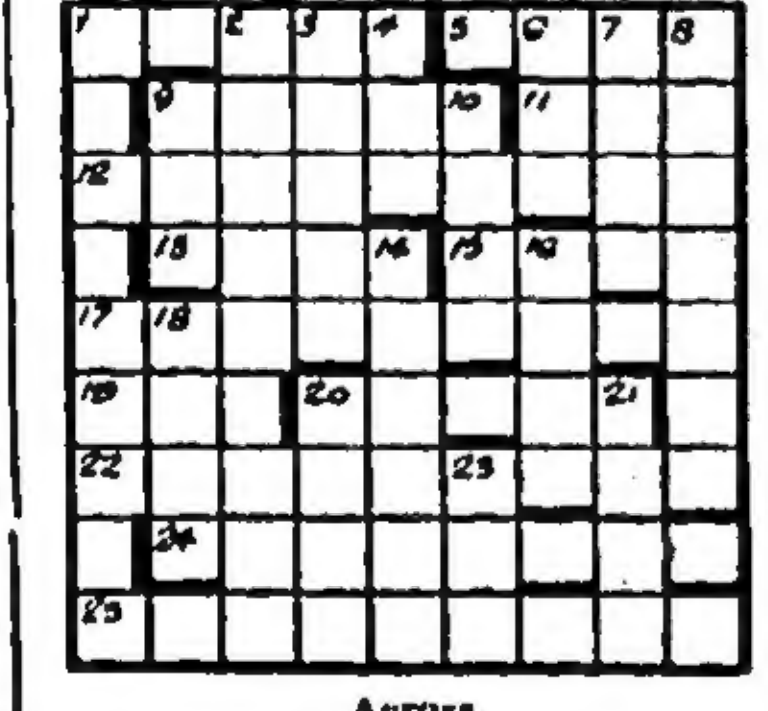
CANCER (June 22-July 22): Test your ideas. If they are practical, put them into production at once with benefit.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): A fine day for anything you may wish to do. Might be a good idea to finish that job have been postponing.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): New ideas for creative writing should work out well just now. Exert your best talents today.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Your general welfare is highly favoured. Take advantage of the trend to consummate an important deal.

CROSSWORD



Across

- Wicked dreams (the cur-tained sleep) (Macbeth) (5)
- A thousand and the end of all flesh (4)
- A steamship, the VIP returns taking an odd command (6)
- Tasty dish from heroes (8)
- Footballer wins his successes without turning one (12)
- Farmer like a good one (14)
- Comes before many a woman (17, 18, 19)
- Add up, child (3)
- Music, idiot (anagram) (11)
- The Roper did (8)
- Fairy of the hills (10, 11)

Down

- If you keep on the right track you'll finish the course, at last (10)
- Four men to get the sense of this (4)
- State make rope another way (6)
- The lady of Eden (3)
- Time from the range (3)
- This particular thinker starts a new business with a nervous trouble (17)
- King Sun (3)
- March ahead (17, 18, 19)
- Two runs, and what a noise! (10)
- How below is a foul (4)
- Method (4)
- More than (4)
- More than (4)
- More than (4)
- More than (4)

Yesterday's solution

JACOBY ON BRIDGE

Ruff Losing Cards Is Excellent Idea

By OSWALD JACOBY

IT'S usually a good idea to ruff your losing cards with dummy's otherwise useless trumps. Declarer tried such a plan in today's hand, but it didn't work.

West astutely opened a trump, deducting from the bidding that the dummy was very short of hearts. Dummy won with the ten of spades, and declarer hastily cashed the singleton ace of hearts and led a diamond towards his king in the hope of ruffing a heart with dummy's remaining trump.

This plan had no real chance of success. West captured the king of diamonds with the ace and led another trump, thus destroying dummy's ruffing power. South overtook in his own hand, led a third trump, and then hopefully tried to establish dummy's clubs.

This plan likewise failed because the defenders could hardly fail to pick the right defence.

NORTH 10			
♠ 10			
♥ A			
♦ Q 8 7 5 2			
♣ K Q 9 5 4			
WEST			
♠ 7 6 2			
♥ Q 10 7 4 2			
♦ A 3			
♣ 10 6 2			
EAST			
♠ K J 9 8			
♥ Q J 10 8 6			
♦ A 5 3			
♣ A J 7 3			
SOUTH (D)			
♠ A K J 9 8 4 3			
♥ 8 5 3			
♦ K 4			
♣ 8			
North-South vul.			
South	West	North	East
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♠	Pass
2 ♠	Pass	3 ♠	Pass
3 ♠	Pass	4 ♠	Pass
Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass
Opening lead—♠ 7			

East won the first club trick with his ace and promptly shifted to hearts. Two heart tricks were easily collected, so that the defenders got a total of four tricks to defeat the contract.

It should have been obvious to declarer that the defenders were going to stick to their defence of leading trumps in order to prevent him from ruffing hearts in the dummy. Since that plan didn't work, he should have looked for a campaign that had some chance of being successful. He wouldn't have needed to look far.

As soon as the dummy appears, South can count seven trump tricks, one heart, one diamond and one club. The total is ten tricks, enough for the game contract. The only problem, a very slight one, is to establish the tricks in time.

After winning the first trick in the dummy with the ten of spades, declarer should lead the king of clubs at once. No defence can then stop declarer from winning ten tricks and he might even succeed in making 11.

South can surely get back to dummy with the ace of hearts to discard a losing heart on the queen of clubs. He will therefore lose at most one heart, one diamond, and one club.

CARD SENSE

By MAX TRELL

WILLY TOAD came hopping up to Knarf and Hand, the shadow-children with the turned-about names and said: "What time is it please?"

"It's ten o'clock in the morning," said Hand.

A Major Distinction

"No," said Willy. "I didn't mean that. I meant what time of the year is it?"

Hand looked at Willy with a puzzled expression on her face. Knarf said: "We don't understand what you mean by time of the year, Willy."

"Very simple," said Willy. "I mean is it spring time or summer time?"

Knarf now smiled and said: "It's half past autumn-time, going on to winter."

"Thank you," said Willy. "That's just what I wanted to know."

Knarf and Hand were now surprised to see Willy reach into his vest pocket and take out a big, brass watch. Willy started moving the hands by means of a stem-winder on the watch, meanwhile muttering to himself: "Half past autumn-time going on to winter."

Knarf and Hand were both curious about the watch. They looked over Willy's shoulder to get a better view of it. It was quite strange. Instead of having numbers of one to 12 like most ordinary watches, Willy's watch had words and pictures. At the top of the watch where the number twelve usually was, there was the word: SPRING.

White, 9 pieces.

Solution to yesterday's problem.

1, K-K, any; 2, Q, or K; 3, K-K, any; 4, Q, or K; 5, K-K, any; 6, Q, or K; 7, K-K, any; 8, Q, or K; 9, K-K, any; 10, Q, or K; 11, K-K, any; 12, Q, or K; 13, K-K, any; 14, Q, or K; 15, K-K, any; 16, Q, or K; 17, K-K, any; 18, Q, or K; 19, K-K, any; 20, Q, or K; 21, K-K, any; 22, Q, or K; 23, K-K, any; 24, Q, or K; 25, K-K, any; 26, Q, or K; 27, K-K, any; 28, Q, or K; 29, K-K, any; 30, Q, or K; 31, K-K, any; 32, Q, or K; 33, K-K, any; 34, Q, or K; 35, K-K, any; 36, Q, or K; 37, K-K, any; 38, Q, or K; 39, K-K, any; 40, Q, or K; 41, K-K, any; 42, Q, or K; 43, K-K, any; 44, Q, or K; 45, K-K, any; 46, Q, or K; 47, K-K, any; 48, Q, or K; 49, K-K, any; 50, Q, or K; 51, K-K, any; 52, Q, or K; 53, K-K, any; 54, Q, or K; 55, K-K, any; 56, Q, or K; 57, K-K, any; 58, Q, or K; 59, K-K, any; 60, Q, or K; 61, K-K, any; 62, Q, or K; 63, K-K, any; 64, Q, or K; 65, K-K, any; 66, Q, or K; 67, K-K, any; 68, Q, or K; 69, K-K, any; 70, Q, or K; 71, K-K, any; 72, Q, or K; 73, K-K, any; 74, Q, or K; 75, K-K, any; 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TAKE YOUR CUE FROM HORACE LINDRUM

The Looped Bridge

Here's how to make the cue-ball screw back after contact with an object ball. Once you get into the habit of correct timing and cue delivery, the "screw" stroke will become quite simple to you.

This type of stroke can be very important during the course of a frame, when you are playing a pot to gain position for another ball. So let's take a look at the photograph. It shows the tip of the cue striking the white ball as low as possible for a screw back from the pink spot as to gain position on the black.

The grip on the butt of the cue is slightly shorter than for a normal pot stroke.

Take particular note of the bridge hand which is introduced when the cue-ball is close to an object ball. It enables the player to have more control over the play, but delicate screw shot.

To make the bridge the forefinger is looped around the cue with the tip of the finger resting on the inside part of the thumb. Having taken this grip correctly, you then arch the hand slightly with finger tips present from the table.

The cue must run smoothly through the looped bridge, but on no account must it be allowed to deviate in any way from the line of aim. At all times the bridge hand must be firm.

When you execute the screw stroke don't deliver the cue with a jerky action, and don't throw your weight at the shot. Just strike the ball low and let your cue go through smoothly. You will see how the ball will come back.

F.A. Cup Second Round Matches

F.A. CUP (Second Round)

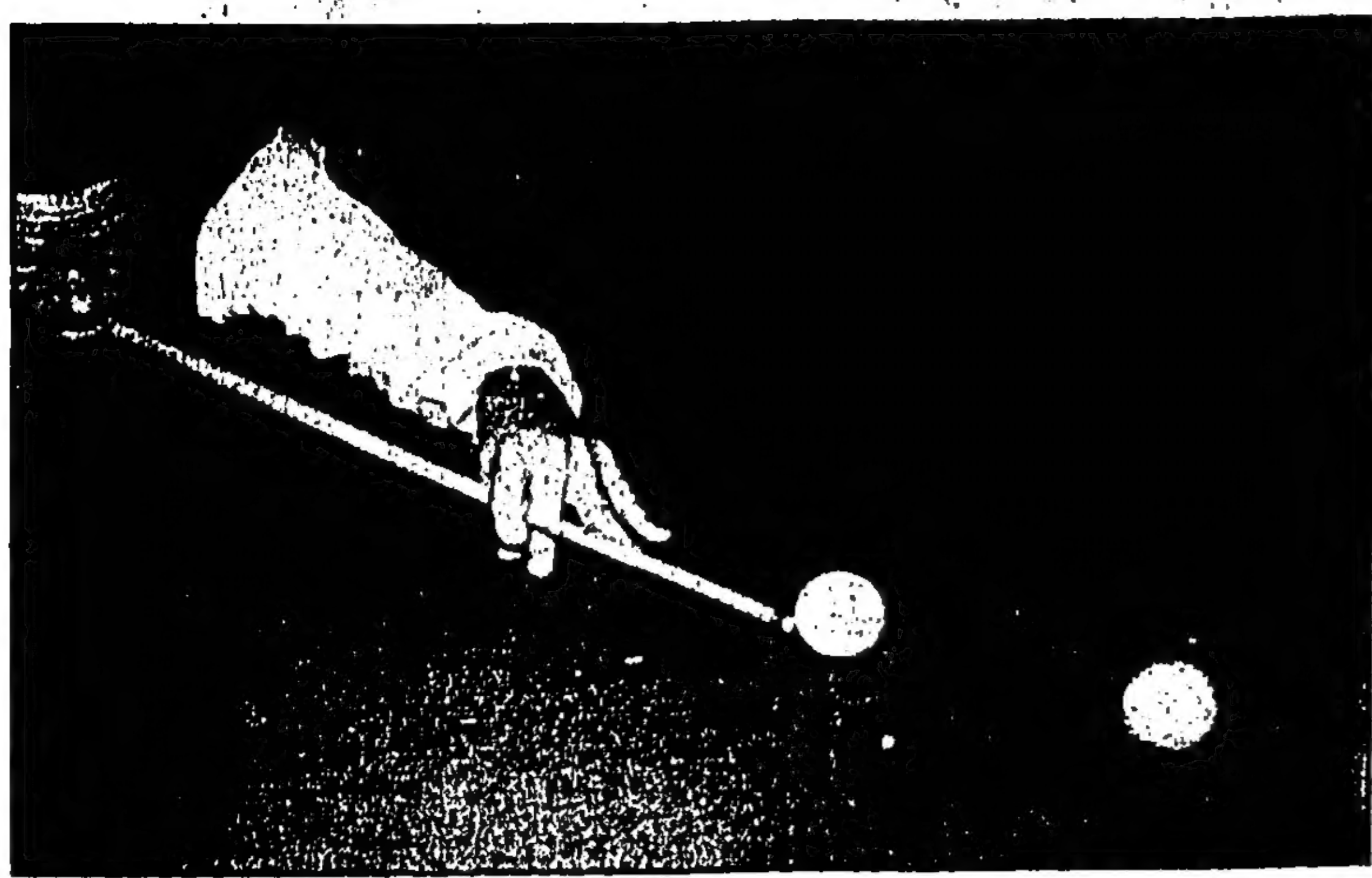
The draw for the second round of the Football Association Cup resulted as follows (matches to be played on Saturday, December 11):

Wrexham v Walsall	Wyth Spartans v Torquay United
Rochedale v Hinkley Athletic	Crystal Palace v Bishop Auckland
Millwall v Accrington Stanley	Walthamstow Avenue v Dartmouth
Hartlepool United v Aldershot	Leyton Orient v Workington
Brentford v Crook Town	Selby Town v Hastings United
Gateshead v Barnsley	Bournemouth v Oldham Athletic
Bradford City v Merthyr Tydfil	Coventry City v Scunthorpe
Gillingham v Reading	Bradford v Southend United
Grimsby Town v Southampton	Dorchester Town v York City
Carlisle United v Watford	Norwich Town v Brighton and Hove

Replays, if necessary, to be played on or before Thursday, December 16.

The following are the Home soccer fixtures for Saturday, December 11:

Division I	
Arsenal	v Charlton
Burnley	v Manchester U.
Cardiff	v Sunderland
Chelsea	v Aston Villa
Everton	v Sheffield W.
Leicester	v Wolves
Manchester C.	v Bristol R.
Newcastle	v Portsmouth
Preston	v Huddersfield
Sheffield U.	v Bolton
West Brom.	v Blackpool
Division II	
Birmingham	v Liverpool
Bury	v Blackburn
Derby	v Derby
Leeds	v Notts C.
Lincoln	v West Ham
Luton	v Doncaster
Middlesbrough	v Bristol R.
Forest	v Swindon
Rotherham	v Aberdeen
Stoke	v Plymouth
Division III (North)	
Southport	v Stockport
Scottish League "A"	
Clyde	v Hearts
Dunfermline	v Partick
East Fife	v Stirling
Falkirk	v Dumbarton
Hamilton	v Queen's Park
Leith	v Dundee U.
St. Johnstone	v Arbroath
Third Lanark	v Greenock C.
Scottish League "B"	
Airdrie	v Arbroath
Alloa	v Dundee U.
Arbroath	v Dundee U.
Barnhill	v Dundee U.
Brechin	v Dundee U.
Forfar	v Dundee U.
Greenock	v Dundee U.
King's Park	v Dundee U.
Leith	v Dundee U.
St. Johnstone	v Dundee U.
Third Lanark	v Dundee U.



Horace Lindrum demonstrates the screw shot. Note the looped bridge hand.

Scotland Will Change Their Colours Against Hungary

By ROBERT RUSSELL

Scotland will desert her traditional dark blue jerseys for the Hungary match at Hampden on December 8. Instead the team will wear a navy blue jersey with white sleeves.

While this will be the first time a Scotland eleven has worn a strip of this design, there have been other occasions when a change of colours has been made.

Scotland's second strip is usually the famous "Rebec" colours—primrose and rose. But they have also played in white, particularly at the time when the national colour of the Irish teams was believed to be not blue but green.

ONLY FOR THIS GAME

"The change is being made for this game only," Sir George Graham, Secretary of the SFA, tells me.

"We feel that if the day is dull the white sleeves will help as a contrast to the cherry red jerseys of the Hungarians."

The change should also be a boon to the TV viewers.

Sir George waits patiently for a letter from the Hungarian FA about the final arrangements for the team's stay in Scotland.

As yet he does not know when they will arrive, though he has provisionally booked them into a Glasgow hotel from Monday, December 6, to Thursday, December 9.

"I don't know exactly what to lay on for them," I was told, "but they have definitely stipulated that no entertainment programme is to be arranged for the players before the game."

"The Lord Provost of Glasgow has invited them to a reception in the City Chambers, but I wonder if that will come under the category of 'entertainment'," said Sir George.

The entertainment ban shows how seriously the Magyars are taking the game and Lesser Hampden will be made available to them at any time during their stay.

The SFA have received a provisional list of 24 players—including the famous Puskas—but it is not yet decided which players will make the journey.

LARGE PARTY

In view of the club matches of Hove and Red Banner with Wolves and Chelsea after the Hampden visit the party is likely to be a large one.

At a reception after the match, the Hungarian FA will be presented with a two-handled traditional Scottish silver, quiche or loving cup. Each of the players and officials will be given a tartan rug.

And there will be another Highland note before the match.

Pirie Will Go To Germany For A Medical Check-up

Gordon Pirie, hero of the recent international cross-country race in Brussels, will probably visit Germany for a routine medical check-up by Professor Woldemar Gerschler, his coach, before he runs again.

Said Pirie: "I am feeling fine and ready to run like a million, but the check-up must come before I race."

The Belgian event was Pirie's first big meeting since his recovery from the damaged foot which kept him out of the last European Championships.

(London Express Service)

when the Scottish skipper will present the Hungarian captain with a tartan pennant.

The SFA have submitted a panel of five Dutch referees, and one of them, along with two Dutch linesmen, will be in charge of the game.

Twenty tons of straw will be taken to Hampden. And Renfrew meteorological officials will give a daily forecast, covering the following 48 hours. If the forecast is frost, the straw will be put down.

(London Express Service)

HILDEGARDE NEFF ON HER WAY TO STARDOM?



LEONARD MOSLEY charts the chances of a girl at the crossroads

FOR a burished, high-candle-power blonde named Hildegard Neff, Christmas this year is going to be crisis-time.

On two sides of the Atlantic the most powerful people in the world of entertainment—in other words YOU—will make up their minds whether she is an international star.

In New York, Hildegard will be making her stage debut in a mammoth new musical based on Greta Garbo's biggest hit in films, NINOTCHKA.

In London, she opens in a new British film called SVEN-GALL, in which she has the choice meaty starring role of Tribby.

So far, Hildegard Neff has shown (in such films as "The Snows of Kilimanjaro," with Gregory Peck) that she has a luminous personality and a delicate acting skill. But stardom has eluded her.

Why, with her beauty, acting ability, and powerful personality, has she missed the top?

Is it because she tries just a bit too hard, is just a little too determined, allows nothing to stand in the way of her ambitions?

If so in Hildegard Neff it is forgivable. She has known what it is like to starve, and is determined never to starve again.

Ambition

SHE was born in East Germany and was in Berlin when the Russians blasted their way in.

Then, to eat, she worked in a Red canteen, until she got a job in a repertory company and did feature roles in films made by the East German Government.

Hildegard was ambitious even then, and was looking westward. Presently, in the west zone, she met a young American Army officer and they were married. She accompanied him back to the U.S. and she has now (although her marriage

was dissolved) gained American citizenship.

She never lets up—travelling the world with a woman companion in search of good parts in good films.

Now she has her finest opportunity. The producers of her New York play picked her for the name-role in "Ninotchka" because she resembles Garbo in voice, looks, and personality. She can also sing and dance.

(London Express Service)

THOSE WIDE OPEN SPACES ARE THE CINEMA'S PULL

Says COLLIE KNOX

Mr Humphrey Bogart is a man who rarely speaks unless spoken to, and even then under protest. Were I to choose a man to whom to make a Transatlantic telephone call at my own expense, Bogart's the boy.

When he does make an utterance in his fascinating nutcracker of a voice, it is short but neat. At our last meeting I asked him if he planned to go into TV in a big way. "Not going in TV at all," he croaked. "I'm doing pretty well out of the movie racket. Always be movies. Suits me."

Exhausted by this speech, he vanished into his studio dressing-room and lay down for an hour. Since then, due to TV, the movie habit has changed. It is no more a habit. Aforetimes, individuals and families reserved a night each week to visit the local cinema.

Often they went not knowing the name of the film, or caring, so long as it was round the corner. Now they tumble into their cars and voyage far afield to see a film which promises a good story and a star-spangled cast. Choice has won the day.

It is a remarkable volte face and marks a challenge successfully met by the films in their new, only-the-best-and-about-time-too policy. And Mr B. does prettier well than ever.

A MAD RUSH

Films are being made for TV in a mad rush. But I am disposed to wonder whether what is regarded as tomorrow's gushing oil-well may not prove to be a barren trickle.

Movies are an escape. To peep at a film on a 16in. screen is to stay unglamorously put. Give me the wide open space of the cinema, where, as in "Garden of Evil," I can watch Mr Gary Cooper in his monosyllabic glory amid glorious scenery as far, in all directions, as the eye can see.

Hollywood has lately discovered the Continent. I have seen "Three Coins in the Fountain" five times, not so much for Miss Hepburn, much as she enchants me, but for the breath-taking views of Rome. Films are becoming not only entertainment, grave and gay, but travelogues.

At the moment of writing, had I any money in TV films, I would grab it back in the morning.

Hongkong To Send Team For 1956 Olympic Games In Australia

The Council of the Hongkong Football Association with Mr C. S. Wang in the chair, yesterday decided to provisionally enter the Colony for the 1956 Olympic Games in Australia.

A letter from FIFA asking for entries before December 10, 1954, was received. The letter stated that not more than 10 teams are able to play through the final rounds and that if there were more than this figure, qualifying rounds, on a zonal basis, would have to be played off. A team will consist of 20 players.

The Council also decided that it would not be possible for Hongkong to embark on a European tour without some guarantee from the host countries concerned. Mr Wolfe Lyberg, an old time friend of the Hongkong Football Association, sent a letter to the FA stating that he was prepared to undertake the arrangements for the tour, and asked the FA to notify him as soon as possible. He drafted out a tentative programme which included three matches in Sweden, three matches in Denmark, three matches in Germany, two in Austria, one in Switzerland, two games in France, one in Spain and an unknown number of matches in England.

Mr Lyberg also stated that he could promise approximately US\$2,000 from each match.

The Council decided that Hongkong would need at least \$250,000 before they could start moving on what would eventually turn out to be a two-month tour. They would start a bout the end of May and complete the tour in August 1955.

The meeting decided to make Mr Lyberg the official representative of the Hongkong Football Association, and the Secretary of the Association was instructed to write and invite him to take up this position and to ask for further details.

Complimentary tickets Regarding the issue of complimentary tickets by South

China, which was brought up by Mr Pat George at the last Management Committee Meeting of the FA, Mr George last night asked the Association what was being done.

The Secretary replied that letters had been written to both the Hongkong Football Club and to South China and replies had been received. Club gave a clear and detailed list of how many complimentary tickets had been issued and to whom, but South China flatly denied they had issued any tickets. Mr Pat George disagreed emphatically on this point.

Mr George asked the HKFA for their support on this matter.

The HKFA Secretary was requested to write to South China and clear up the point on passes and complimentary tickets and to demand a full explanation. Also South China is to be requested to send a set of all complimentary tickets and passes to the FA.

Regarding the matter of substitution, it was decided after a lengthy discussion to write to FIFA and ask them for a set of their rules. Mr J. A. Kearney asked the meeting under what rules HKFA matches were played. "My idea is not to substitute a player because he has had an off day," stated Mr Kearney.

Major Walker, quoted the FIFA rules on this point: "A goalkeeper can be substituted at any time. Any other two players may be substituted up to a minute before half-time."

A long discussion took place on the official capacity of the HKFA coach. Certain Council members wanted to know under what agreement he was working under. A copy of the contract is to be circulated.

A proposal by Mr. Lo Tsun-huen, another Council member, asking that Mr Tom Sneddon's name be deleted from the HKFA programmes, was defeated by a vote of seven to five.

A letter from the Australian FA stating that they regretted cancelling their South East Asian tour was read out to the Council. The Australian Association did not get enough support from Singapore, and Bangkok. Manila failed to reply to their letter.

The Admirals of Vienna are taking over the tour of the Vienna Sports Club of Austria. Admira has in its line-up nine World Cup Internationalists. They want to play in Hongkong on Feb. 12, 13, and 14, but the FA have written to them asking them to change the dates to February 10, 20, 21, and offering a sum of \$48,000 instead of the \$62,000 asked for. This team was seven times champion of Austria.

A joint letter from South China and the Hongkong Football Club asking for their share of the Pool Fund, was granted by the FA.

Sing Tao requested and were given permission to play exhibition matches in Macao.

It was decided by the meeting that in future, no complimentary tickets would be transferable. Mr Channing, Chairman of the Grounds Committee stated that many people gave away their tickets, and by resulting in a confusion of the ground before the match. In future, VIP's would be handed their tickets at the gate.

The meeting also stated that no Council Member, whatever his capacity, could approach a referee during a match, and question or ask a point on a decision.

It was proposed by the Meeting to hold a private cocktail party for Mr Jack Skinner before he went home on retirement.

The following is the draw for the first round of the International Cup.

Portugal v China and Scotland v England, both to be played at the Club ground on the same day. Matches will be of 40 minutes duration.

The draw for the Governor's Cup is as follows: HKFA v CAA (South China ground January 2); the return match will be played at the Club ground.

Senior Shield The following is the draw for the second round of the Senior Shield.

Eastern v Kitchener; KMB v South China; Police or CAA v Club; St Joseph's v Army.

Junior Shield draw is: SCAA v Talkoo; Solicitors v Road; R.A.F. v Army; Road v L.H. Sol Wan; CAA v Kitchener; KMB v Tramways; Gymnastic v Eastern; Club v Sing Tao.

Third Round of the Junior Shield is: Jardines v Sol Wan v R.A.F. or Army; SCAA or Talkoo v Club or Sing Tao; Gymnastic or Eastern v Solicitors or Roadworks; CAA or Kitchener v KMB or Tramways.

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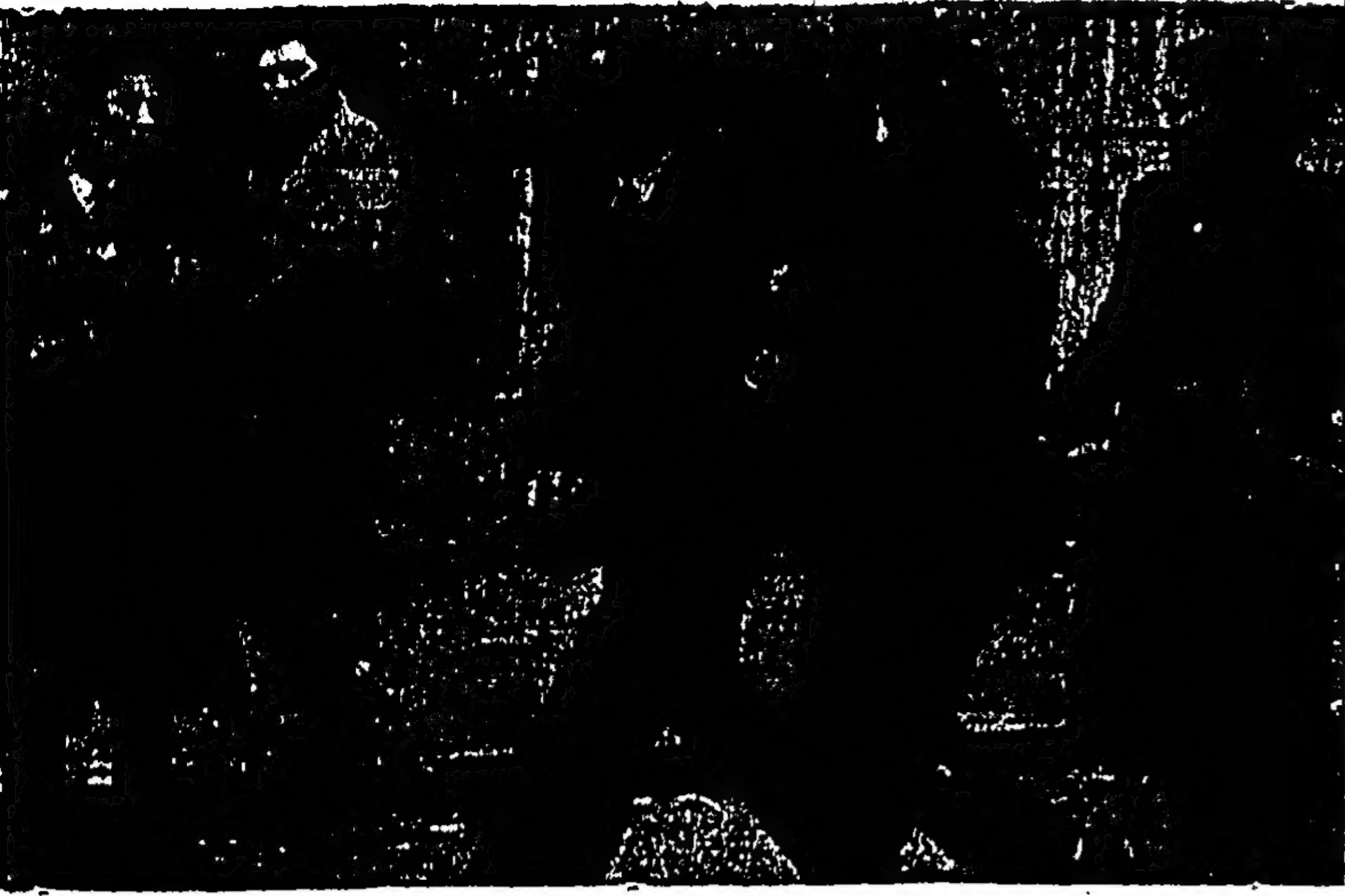
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Dominici Trial—Gustave Assaults Photographer



Gustave Dominici in a fit of temper grabs his daughter's umbrella with which he hit a press photographer trying to take pictures of him. Behind is his wife, Yvette. His father is on trial for the murder of Sir Jack Drummond, his wife and their daughter.—Express Photo.

Strange Religions And Private Armies

Saigon, Dec. 6.

Private armies with strange religions of their own are playing an increasingly important part in the politics of Vietnam.

The private armies were created in the lawlessness and confusion of the eight-year Indo-China war. Ambitious Vietnamese carved little feudal empires for themselves in the rich maze of waterways in and around the Mekong Delta near Saigon.

Just as villagers in medieval Europe looked to their local baron for protection, so the peasants here pledged loyalty to new war lords, paid them taxes and joined their private armies.

But in modern Indo-China, two of the three private armies were built round strange new religions—the Hao Hoa and Cao Dai faiths. The third group, the Binh Xuyen, has no special religion of its own having sprung from a gang of bandits.

This is the story of how these three organisations won power.

The Hao Hoa sect is named after the village of Hao Hoa on the banks of the Mekong, 75 miles west of Saigon, where a remarkable preacher named Huynh Phu So was born in 1919.

Phu So, whose flamboyant personality won him a reputation as a magician, developed a simplified form of Buddhism. All he demands was four "respects" to ancestors, to Buddha, to Vietnam and to mankind. This appealed greatly to simple peasants here, and when he began preaching his new religion in 1938, it spread like wildfire. Within five years, he had 50,000 followers in the rice-growing area around his birth place.

Encouraged by the Japanese who thought him a useful tool against the French, Phu So began to build up an army, dressing men and women in weird and wonderful uniforms and arming them with the flags and symbols that Vietnamese love.

When the French began to reconquer Indo-China after Japan's surrender, the Hao Hoa ranged themselves with the Communist-led Vietnamese resistance. But when Phu So's army tried to enter the provincial capital Cantho on September 8, 1945, the Vietnamese garrison moved them down.

Immediately half a million Hao Hoa supporters turned against the Vietnamese. They welcomed French troops into Cantho then flung captured Vietnamese troops bound hand and foot into the Mekong "to feed the shrimps."

Phu So fell into Vietnamese hands and is believed to have been put to death. In April, 1947, his designated successor, General Tran Van Soai, rallied to the French with two thousand troops.

But without their preacher-leader, the Hao Hoa split into five groups with rival chiefs holding separate parcels of territory.

Since 1948, they have operated more or less with the French and the National Government of Vietnam. They are left to rule their districts and get what they can for themselves. In return, they have driven almost all Vietnamese from their territory.

The nominal head of the Hao Hoa is General Tran Van Soai, a stoker on the ferry boat at Cantho until his conversion by

Phu So. Co-operating with him are three other leaders, Lan Thanh Nguyen, Nguyen Van Ngai (alias Nguyen Giac Ngo) and Bui Xuan. Their four armies combined total about 18,000 troops.

The dissident leader Ba Kut commands a further 450 troops. Though they have pledged loyalty to Vietnam's head of State, the Hao Hoa take orders from nobody. It is thought they would fight tooth and nail to stay independent of Saigon. Banditry and plundering of villages are still reported from their territory.

The Binh Xuyen sprang from a gang of bandits operating from Binh Xuyen village in the maze of waterways south of Saigon.

Numbering only a few score of men in 1945, they rapidly won recruits by professing anti-French nationalism.

Since 1946, the Binh Xuyen have been under the ferocious leadership of Le Van Vien alias Bay Vien, born of a labourer in Saigon's suburbs in 1904. An capable with his fists as with a gun, Le Van Vien was sent to gaol by the French but was released by the Japanese.

Under his command, the Binh Xuyen at first had a loose alliance with the Vietnamese. But in June 1948, Le Van Vien rallied to the French and was given a "zone of influence" between Saigon and the sea.

He has since waged a courageous and largely victorious war against Communists in his zone.

Le Van Vien is reported to pay the Vietnamese Government 400,000 piastres (£4,000) a day in taxes. Without this contribution—or something to replace it—the Vietnamese Government could not pay its civil servants.

Early this year, the Prime Minister, Prince Bui Loc, tried to suppress the Binh Xuyen enterprises in a national clean-up drive. He failed because Bao Dai, the head of state, gave the Binh Xuyen control of South Vietnam's security forces (including Saigon police) at the beginning of the campaign. Prince Bui Loc therefore resigned.

The green-betted Binh Xuyen army numbering about 4,000 men plus as many reserves guards government offices and strong points in Saigon.

Le Van Vien is considered a political ally of the Vietnamese Army's Chief of Staff, General Nguyen Van Hinh, and the former Prime Minister, General Nguyen Van Xuyen, both of whom wish to see the Catholic Government of the present Prime Minister replaced.

Cao Dai, meaning "High Church," is a religion formed in

1926 which seeks to combine Hinduism, Buddhism, Taoism, Christianity, ancestor worship and humanist philosophy.

It was founded by a Buddhist called Le Van Trung, who claimed to receive instructions from heaven through spiritualistic mediums.

Cao Dai "saints" include Victor Hugo, the 19th century French poet.

The new religion swept through Southern Vietnam where people's minds were confused by the conflict of Buddhism, Christianity and ancestor worship. And today the sect claims 2,000,000 converts, mostly in the region around Tay Ninh, a town 50 miles northwest of Saigon.

Like the Hao Hoa, the Cao Dai leaders know how to appeal to the Vietnamese love of colour, picturesque ceremonies and strange uniforms.

Their temples are built in a gaudy style resembling the decoration of a Western fun fair with multi-coloured snakes and dragons coiling around walls and pillars. They are kept immaculately clean by the white-robed worshippers who take pride in spending up to two hours kneeling on the marble floors during some lengthy service.

The present head of the Cao Dai movement is Pham Cong Tac. A former Catholic, he managed to get all the sects deliberately divided powers into his own hands when the founder died in 1934. Tac kept his old job as chief legislator and became temporary "Pope" as well.

Like the other two groups, the Cao Dai fought with the Vietnamese against the French, but changed sides in 1947 when they became convinced the Vietnamese were primarily Communists, not nationalists.

The Cao Dai Army, now about 15,000 strong, has cleared most Vietnamese out of a wide belt of territory flanking the Saigon-Phnom Penh road. They accept the nominal authority of Bao Dai, but brook no interference in their feudal rule or methods of tax gathering.—China Mail Special.

When the French began to reconquer Indo-China after Japan's surrender, the Hao Hoa ranged themselves with the Communist-led Vietnamese resistance. But when Phu So's army tried to enter the provincial capital Cantho on September 8, 1945, the Vietnamese garrison moved them down.

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TRADE and COMMERCE SECTION

AMERICAN, ECONOMY 1954 Should Be Second Best On Record AUTOMOBILE AND STEEL PRODUCTION RECOVER

By John Morka

New York, Dec. 6.

There was no let-up in the buoyant pace of business activity in the United States last week.

As 1954 moved into its final month, indications were that the year would go down in the record books as the second best in history. Against a backdrop of continued strength in stock prices, employment continued at high levels, retail sales are booming, manufacturers' unfilled orders are rising. Auto and steel production are showing a sizzling recovery.

Looking into 1955, there were strong indications of a carry-over of the late-1954 optimism from a number of sources. On the psychological front, there were encouraging surveys of consumer spending intentions, strengthened in part by a record income after taxes. Construction, now at record levels, while expected to taper off next year, will play a major part in providing a strong base for the economic structure.

Industrial production in November appears to have shown a more-than-seasonal improvement for the first time since early 1953. There were strong possibilities that December would show still further gains. The gross national product—the sum of all goods and services—will reach 356 billion, only about 2½ per cent below the record 365 billion in 1953, according to the Federal Reserve Board.

SOME ADJUSTMENT

Support for the improvement in the business picture came from three fronts last week.

World Cotton Markets

New York, Dec. 6.

Cotton futures trading today edged to a slow pace as traders marked time pending the Government's final crop estimate of the season on Wednesday.

Prices saw-sawed narrowly on either side of the previous close, responding to small orders either way.

At the close the list ruled off 2 to 3 points. Opening prices were unchanged to off 3 points. New Orleans closed unchanged to off 1 point.

Operations were given over mostly to evening-up among professionals, while the outside commission house trade watched the rise in securities while most other commodity markets hit a down-grade.

Trading volume and opening interest in the exchange today were:

Month	Volume	Open	Interest
Dec	4,900	47,000	31.75
Jan	4,900	1,002,200	31.75
Mar	31,000	1,000,000	31.75
May	14,000	500,400	31.75
Jul	2,300	22,000	31.75
Oct	2,300	12,000	31.75
Nov	2,100	75,400	31.75
Total	102,900	2,023,000	bales

NEW ORLEANS

Month	Volume	Open	Interest
Dec	3,900	34,000	34.50
Jan	3,900	1,002,200	34.50
Mar	31,000	1,000,000	34.50
May	14,000	500,400	34.50
Jul	2,300	22,000	34.50
Oct	2,300	12,000	34.50
Nov	2,100	75,400	34.50
Total	102,900	2,023,000	bales

LIVERPOOL

Month	Volume	Open	Interest
Dec	3,900	34,000	34.50
Jan	3,900	1,002,200	34.50
Mar	31,000	1,000,000	34.50
May	14,000	500,400	34.50
Jul	2,300	22,000	34.50
Oct	2,300	12,000	34.50
Nov	2,100	75,400	34.50
Total	102,900	2,023,000	bales

Closings, American middling, 15/16 inch, in pence per lb. were as follows:

Month	Volume	Open	Interest
Dec	3,900	34,000	34.50
Jan	3,900	1,002,200	34.50
Mar	31,000	1,000,000	34.50
May	14,000	500,400	34.50
Jul	2,300	22,000	34.50
Oct	2,300	12,000	34.50
Nov	2,100	75,400	34.50
Total	102,900	2,023,000	bales

(In the United States the average price of 15/16 inch cotton, at 10 designated spots, has been unavailable since September 1953.)

Sales at all of these markets, according to the London Cotton Association, were as follows:

1955 MODELS

Much of the unseasonable boom in industrial production has been attributed to the industry now turning out 1955 models at highest levels since 1950. Scheduled output "in December is well above 600,000 cars. All this has helped the steel industry, which according to Iron Age, The National Metalworking Publication, is now operating at a 35 per cent higher than the low in this summer.

The pace of new orders is outstripping production, and despite careful screening by steel mills, delivery promises are being extended on nearly all products.

The size of automotive orders for steel already indicates exceptionally good business—at least through the first quarter, Iron Age says.

High carbon wire used in upholstery is at least as tight as cold-rolled sheets. And appliance makers are placing more orders, indicating according to Iron Age, "excellent" output at a time when this industry generally is busy.

The guaranteed annual wage—a goal of unions in several key industries—came under strong criticism last week. Mr. Charles R. Sligh, Jr., Chairman of the National Association of Manufacturers, said a guaranteed annual wage could hamper America's expanding economy.

Among other shortcomings, the set wage "freezes the cost of labour at a level which could prove disastrous during a period of a business decline," and would tend to make borrowing and financing more difficult, he said.

London Foreign Exchange

Month	Volume	Open	Interest
Dec	3,900	34,000	34.50
Jan	3,900	1,002,200	34.50
Mar	31,000	1,000,000	34.50
May	14,000	500,400	34.50
Jul	2,300	22,000	34.50
Oct	2,300	12,000	34.50
Nov	2,100	75,400	34.50
Total	102,900	2,023,000	bales

Exchange Rates

Month	Volume	Open	Interest
Dec	3,900	34,000	34.50
Jan	3,900	1,002,200	34.50
Mar	31,000	1,000,000	34.50
May	14,000	500,400	34.50
Jul	2,300	22,000	34.50
Oct	2,300	12,000	34.50
Nov	2,100	75,400	34.50
Total	102,900	2,023,000	bales

World Rubber Markets

Singapore, Dec. 6. The market opened a little steadier and thereafter fluctuated narrowly. Trade and factory did not show much support but the sellers were somewhat reserved. Future closings:

Month	Volume	Open	Interest
Dec	3,900	34,000	34.50
Jan	3,900	1,002,200	34.50
Mar	31,000	1,000,000	34.50
May	14,000	500,400	34.50
Jul	2,300	22,000	34.50
Oct	2,300	12,000	34.50
Nov	2,100	75,400	34.50
Total	102,900	2,023,000	bales

Meanwhile, U.S. exports in 1954 will reach 17.2 billion, an increase of about 250 million, Fortune predicted.

This rise—in the face of a 750-million-decline in foreign economic aid and a drop of over 500 million in U.S. imports—offers "convincing evidence that the world no longer necessarily catches pneumonia when the United States sneezes."—United Press.

HONGKONG STOCK EXCHANGE

(From Our Correspondent)

Business done on the Hongkong Stock Exchange this morning amounted to \$780,124.00. Noon quotations and the morning's transactions:

Month	Volume	Open	Interest
Dec	3,900	34,000	34.50
Jan	3,900	1,002,200	34.50
Mar	31,000	1,000,000	34.50
May	14,000	500,400	34.50
Jul	2,300	22,000	34.50
Oct	2,300	12,000	34.50
Nov	2,100	75,400	34.50
Total	102,900	2,023,000	bales

SHARES BUYERS SELLERS RALES

Month	Volume	Open	Interest
Dec	3,900	34,000	34.50
Jan	3,900	1,002,200	34.50
Mar	31,000	1,000,000	34.50
May	14,000	500,400	34.50
Jul	2,300	22,000	34.50
Oct	2,300	12,000	34.50
Nov	2,100	75,400	34.50
Total	102,900	2,023,000	bales

DOCKS, ETC.

Month	Volume	Open	Interest
Dec	3,900	34,000	34.50
Jan	3,900	1,002,200	34.50
Mar	31,000	1,000,000	34.50
May	14,000	500,400	34.50
Jul	2,300	22,000	34.50
Oct	2,300	12,000	34.50
Nov	2,100	75,400	34.50
Total	102,900	2,023,000	bales

LAND, ETC.

Month	Volume	Open	Interest
Dec	3,900	34,000	34.50
Jan	3,900	1,002,200	34.50
Mar	31,000	1,000,000	34.50
May	14,000	500,400	34.50
Jul	2,300	22,000	34.50
Oct	2,300	12,000	34.50
Nov	2,100	75,400	34.50
Total	102,900	2,023,000	bales

UTILITIES

Month	Volume	Open	Interest
Dec	3,900	34,000	34.50
Jan	3,900	1,002,200	34.50
Mar	31,000	1,000,000	34.50
May	14,000	500,400	34.50
Jul	2,300	22,000	34.50
Oct	2,300	12,000	34.50
Nov	2,100	75,400	34.50
Total	102,900	2,023,000	bales

STOCKS, ETC.

Month	Volume	Open	Interest
Dec	3,900	34,000	34.50
Jan	3,900	1,002,200	34.50
Mar	31,000	1,000,000	34.50
May	14,000	500,400	34.50
Jul	2,300	22,000	34.50
Oct	2,300	12,000	34.50
Nov	2,100	75,400	34.50
Total	102,900	2,023,000	bales

COOTIONS

Month	Volume	Open	Interest
Dec	3,900	34,000	34.50
Jan	3,900	1,002,200	34.50
Mar	31,000	1,000,000	34.50
May	14,000	500,400	34.50
Jul	2,300	22,000	34.50
Oct	2,300	12,000	34.50
Nov	2,100	75,400	34.50
Total	102,900	2,023,000	bales

MISCELLANEOUS

Month	Volume	Open	Interest
Dec	3,900	34,000	34.50
Jan	3,900	1,002,200	34.50
Mar	31,000	1,000,000	34.50
May	14,000	500,400	34.50
Jul	2,300	22,000	34.50
Oct			

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TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1954.

Sheaffer's
"SNORKEL"

Secretary To The Treasury Says U.S. BUDGET NOT LIKELY TO BE BALANCED

Washington, Dec. 6.
The Secretary of the Treasury, Mr George Humphrey, said today that he did not believe the United States could balance its budget during the coming fiscal year 1955-56.

Mr Humphrey made his statement at a press conference when asked to comment upon the effect upon budgetary policy of a number of new projects contemplated by the Eisenhower Administration, including military pay increase, higher pay for Federal Government employees and the increase of Export-Import Bank loans.

He pointed out that there had been a deficit last year of \$1,000,000,000 and that the current year would be \$1,500,000,000.

IMPROVEMENT SOUGHT
He said the Administration was striving to improve the situation but he did not believe the budget could be balanced for the first year ending June 30, 1956.

Mr Humphrey insisted under persistent questioning that the Administration had not yet

agreed to have a programme of

for Asia. He made it clear that the subject had been discussed at a high level of the Government but he said repeatedly that there was not as yet an Asia programme and that it was accepted and agreed Government policy that there was as yet no such programme.

BUDGETARY PROSPECTS
He said that whatever was decided on such a programme would be settled before Congress convened next January.

Regarding budgetary prospects Mr Humphrey said that present estimates of a deficit of approximately \$4,750 million (£1,700 million) for the year ending June 30, 1955, appeared to be about right although they were due for review in the near future. *Reuter*

At Last Night's Press Conference



Miss Ava Gardner, the film star, photographed at a Press conference at the Republic Hay Hotel yesterday. — (Staff Photographer).

AVA GARDNER WAS NOT JUST PUNCTUAL —She Was Ahead Of Time

By Jane Roberts, China Mail Film Critic

Recently there have been several Press Conferences for film personalities and the organisation of each one has been suitably impressive.

Ava Gardner's was even more commendable. Scheduled for 8 o'clock yesterday, she was there, not punctually, but ahead of time!

It wouldn't have been possible to have had a more co-operative person to interview. She looked friendly, she spoke freely and charmed us all by appearing completely natural.

LITTLE MAKE-UP
With her dark hair dressed very simply in a chignon and with an absolute minimum of make-up, she gave the impression of being someone who would give a truthful answer without the slightest reflection on its publicity value.

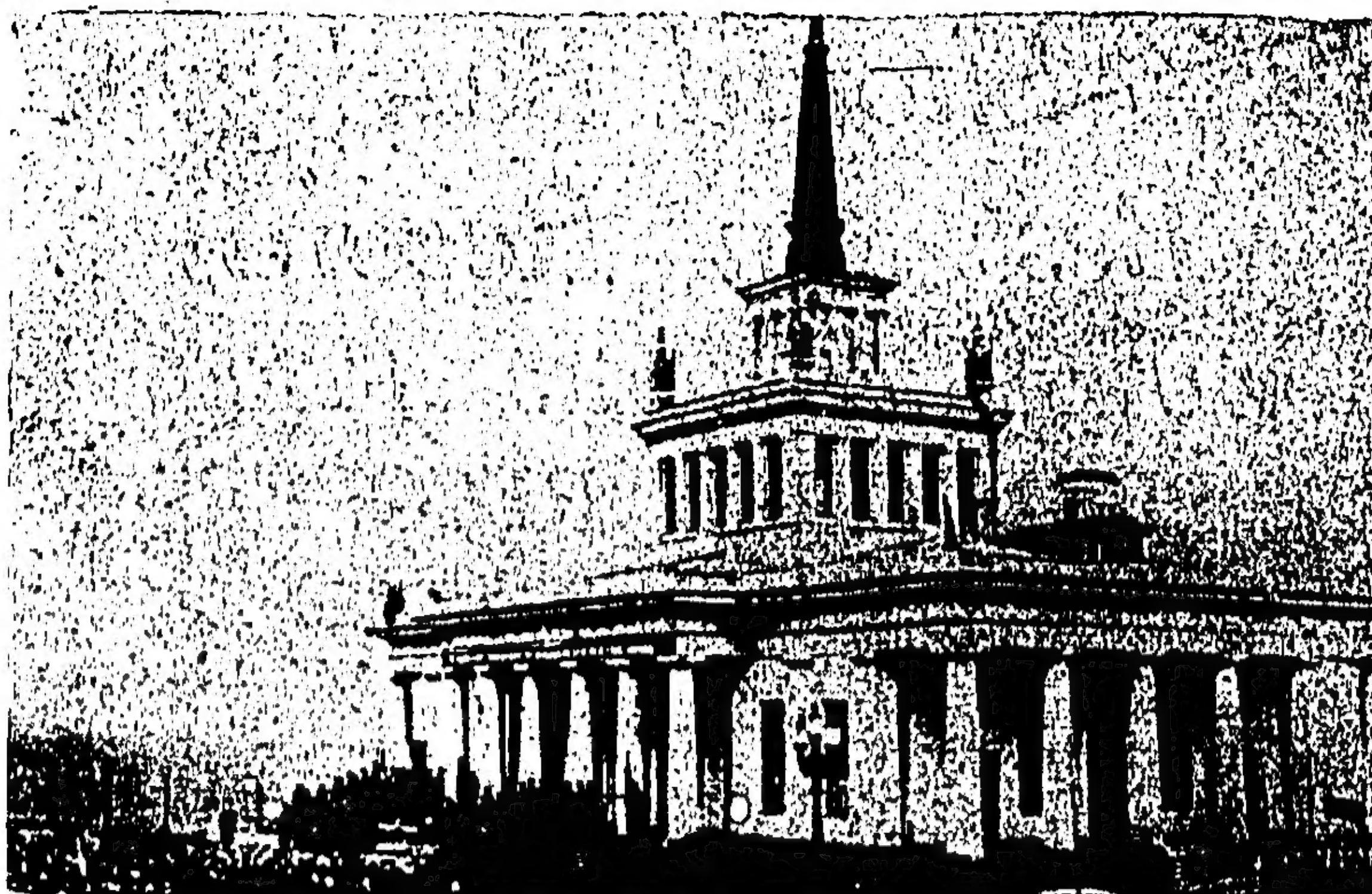
She was asked a good many questions, quite a lot of them personal and provocative.

To all of them she gave reasonable replies in the same soft, low-pitched voice we know from the screen. It transpired that her favourite colour was green, that she'd learned Spanish fairly recently (her accent was perfect) and her closest girl friends in Hollywood were Lana Turner and Grace Kelly.

She was looking forward to her next picture in February, which would be "Bhowani Junction", work would start for her on February 1st in Pakistan with Stewart Granger.

Printed and published by WILLIAM ALLEN CHINNAM for and on behalf of the China Mail Morning Post Limited at 1-3 Wyndham Street, City of Victoria, in the Colony of Hongkong.

New Lenin Memorial Station Opened



The opening ceremony of Leninskaja Railway Station took place recently at Gerok-Leninskij, where Lenin died. In the centre of the new station hall stands a large sculpture of Lenin.—London Express Photo.

No Confidence Motion Today

Japanese Party Leaders Discuss Yoshida Crisis

Tokyo, Dec. 7.

Japan's governing Liberal party leaders met in an emergency conference this morning to decide what action the Government should take if it were defeated in the No Confidence motion scheduled to be presented in the Diet lower house later in the day.

French May Intervene In Army Revolt

Saigon, Dec. 6.
Contrary to reports reaching here earlier today, the small post of Cana, on the Annam coast, occupied by deserters from the Vietnamese National Army, has not been retaken by regular army forces. It was

The desertion took place on November 21, when Colonel Nguyen Quang-huung led a revolt of half the garrison of Phanrang (south central Vietnam).

The deserters seized a considerable sum of Vietnamese piastres from the garrison chest and took to the hills.

The loyal soldiers at Cana were made prisoners. Since the revolt, Colonel Hoang was believed to have gathered more men behind him and his refusal to evacuate the post and release the prisoners led the Vietnamese National Army Chiefs of Staff to suggest launching an operation against Cana.

This met with opposition from the Defence Ministry in Saigon and the incident greatly increased tension between the Ngo Dinh-diem government and the Army Chief of Staff.

This situation is further complicated by the fact that Colonel Hoang cut the railway line in the Cana region and blocked the French Union military train traffic. The French authorities are expected to intervene soon to free these troops.—France-Press.

Radio Hongkong

H.K.T. Time Signal and Programme Summary, 6.55. Dandelion—Band of Her Majesty's Coldstream Guards; 6.57 First Hearing; presented by Hugh Sullivan (Studio); 7.10. Weather Report; 7.15. Special Announcements; 7.15. Interlude for Music with Key Conventions (BBC); 7.20. Forces' Favorites (London Relay); 8.15. La Demi-Heure (Radio); 8.20. "Rendezvous"—A Serial Story in Eight Episodes by John Jowett; 8.30. Explodes by Peter Baker (John Jowett); 8.35. Rose Baker (Patricia Butler); 8.40. Explodes by John Jowett; 8.45. Explodes by John Jowett; 8.50. Explodes by John Jowett; 8.55. Explodes by John Jowett; 9.00. Explodes by John Jowett; 9.05. Explodes by John Jowett; 9.10. Explodes by John Jowett; 9.15. Explodes by John Jowett; 9.20. Explodes by John Jowett; 9.25. Explodes by John Jowett; 9.30. Explodes by John Jowett; 9.35. Explodes by John Jowett; 9.40. Explodes by John Jowett; 9.45. Explodes by John Jowett; 9.50. Explodes by John Jowett; 9.55. Explodes by John Jowett; 10.00. 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